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THURSDAY, JUNE 17TH, 2010

Queen's Birthday honour for Physic Garden stalwart Dan Clayton-Jones

OBE award for voluntary work in Cowbridge and around Wales

A LOCAL man who was closely involved in the creation of the Cowbridge Physic Garden has been awarded an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

Dan Clayton-Jones, who is chairman of the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) received the award for his charity work with the National Botanic gardens, the National Trust, the Order of St John, and also the Physic Garden.

Dan told The GEM: "I have been involved in a number of projects in the Vale, such as the renovation plans for Penarth Pier and, very recently, the restoration of historic painting at St Cadoc's Church, Llancarfan.

"However, that was part of my employment with the HLF, and we were involved in making sure the projects qualified for the grant aid."

Dan's voluntary work includes sitting on the board of the National Trust in Wales for nine years (the last three as deputy chair).

Similarly, his efforts in setting up the National Botanic Gardens were voluntary, as was his work with the Cowbridge Charter trust on the physic garden.

Dan explained: "Although the Physic Garden did receive some Lottery funding, it did not come through the HLF."

Dan grew up in Penllyn and went to Cowbridge Grammar School, and said that he was most pleased about getting his OBE because it would be such a "thrill" for his mother, who is now 95.

He said: "Mum lives in St Nicholas now. She moved from Penllyn after my father passed away.

"She was proud that her husband received an OBE – he was president of the Welsh Rugby Union, and also chairman of selectors – and now I have one, too!"

He 'drifted' into his particular area of voluntary work when he became the secretary of the Historic Houses Association, and he has continued to have a passion for the heritage of Wales.

He told The GEM: "Both the voluntary work and the HLF work have been very rewarding.

"We have seen some wonderful projects – such as the Cowbridge Physic Garden – come all the way from just an idea to a fantastic conclusion."

Dan Clayton Jones, who has received an OBE in recognition of his voluntary work.

FARTHINGS CLOSES

'...but it will rise again' say restaurant's owners

FARTHINGS Restaurant, which is almost a Cowbridge institution, has closed, eight months after a Cardiff-based company took it over.

The new owners say that they are "considering plans to launch a new restaurant" but the premises are likely to remain empty until "the early autumn" at least.

It was in October of 2009 that Cardiff-based ChoiceProduce took over Farthings, as well as the other two associated businesses, Farthings at Home Delicatessen, and Farthings Events. The latter two businesses are continuing to trade normally.

ChoiceProduce, which is now known as Knife & Fork Food Ltd, came to Cowbridge as owners of two well-known Cardiff restaurants, Woods Brasserie and The Conway, and had also taken over at the Old Swan Inn, Llantwit Major. Again, these three businesses are continuing to trade.

However, things have clearly not gone smoothly at Farthings, and a spokeswoman for Knife & Fork Food Ltd said that the restaurant was still making a loss.

She said: "Despite making significant changes in management, operating procedures and food and wine offerings over the last few months, the restaurant has continued to trade at a loss and, in its present format, has proven uneconomic to keep open.

"Every attempt to reverse this pattern has been made but we believe that only by closing down and opening as something completely different can the business flourish.

"We are considering plans to launch a brand new restaurant, possibly in early autumn."

The spokeswoman said: "We are sad to be taking this unfortunate action, but must look to the future, focusing on our other sites and continuing to offer our customers the high standards they have come to expect from Knife & Fork, all the while considering alternative plans for Farthings restaurant."

A48 MAN HAD KNIFE IN CAR

POLICE on the A48 near Cowbridge were alerted when they received a report that a car was being driven "in a suspicious manner", Cardiff Crown Court has heard.

Shortly afterwards, they intercepted the vehicle in the car park of the Tesco supermarket at Culverhouse Cross and after a search, found a sheath knife in a door pocket, said prosecutor James Evans.

Wayne Tulloch, 42, of St Fagans, pleaded guilty to carrying a bladed article. He was sentenced to 32 weeks imprisonment, suspended for a year, and made subject to a supervision order for a year.

He was also ordered to take part in a behavioural programme and to carry out 140 hours unpaid work.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

TURN TO PAGE 8 FOR EXCLUSIVE
FILCO Supermarkets
WORLD CUP specials

GEM looks at charms of Cowbridge

THIS week, The GEM looks at the attractions of Cowbridge with a four-page feature.

Find out what's new in the shops, where to dine out, what services are on offer, and what new plans there are for the Vale's leading market town

(SEE PAGES 14 – 17).

Eternity with Love
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'Folk memory remains strong'

WITH reference to Winston Churchill and the Tonypandy Riots in your report of June 10, you refer to the letter I wrote to Brigadier Storrie on behalf of Llanmaes Community Council, of which I was then Chair.

This had the unanimous support of all councillors present at our meeting held on April 21, which Councillor Jeff Robinson was unable to attend.

Our objection was on the basis of the folk-memory of Churchill employing the army during the Tonypandy riots of 1910-1911.

Wikipedia reports: "*Churchill sent troops from the Somerset Light Infantry, which was exceptional in Britain. He did not specifically deploy them, but authorised their use if deemed necessary by the Civic authorities*." This led to "*a military occupation of the Rhondda and neighbouring areas*" (Encyclopaedia of Wales, 2008).

What is important in renaming a base after Churchill are the attitudes within the population. As a student at the time of Churchill's death (January 24, 1965) I well remember reports of dancing in the streets of the Rhondda.

The animosity towards Churchill was enhanced by the fact that as a Liberal Home Secretary, his party was largely supported by donations from the mine-owners. This is made clear in Emrys Hughes' biography of Churchill (1951).

This folk memory remains strong, and the recent Encyclopaedia of Wales (2008) reports:

"*The suspicion of Winston Churchill in industrial Wales, aroused by the riots, proved long-standing.*"

Yr eiddoch yn gywir
Dafydd Stephens, Llanmaes

'No fairness in spending cuts'

HERE'S the thing! It's the banks and financial institutions that got us into this financial mess.

The government bails them out with billions of pounds of taxpayers' money so they should be very grateful. However, they carry on paying themselves huge salaries and multi-million-pound bonuses which they invest in such a way as to pay as little tax as possible.

Meanwhile, people who had nothing to do with the financial collapse take pay cuts or lose their jobs; unemployment rises, hospitals and schools suffer, universities cut their student intake, libraries are closed, support services for the very poor, the dispossessed and the desperate disappear.

I was taught that people are accountable for their actions, yet those who caused this mess in the first place get away with it.

So I ask every political party, where's the fairness in the policy of savage public spending cuts? I say we increase taxes (affecting the richest in society more – especially those who benefited from the 'boom') and lay off the public spending cuts (helping the poorest in society more).

(Name and address supplied)

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THE COLUMN YOU WRITE

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War leader who saved Britain from Nazi horrors

'The debt we all owe to Winston Churchill'

I AM amazed at the attitude of many members of the Llanmaes council who have taken offence over renaming RAF West Camp as the Churchill Lines (The GEM, June 10).

Today, had it not been for Sir Winston, we might well be renaming West Camp as the Halifax Lines, as Lord Halifax advocated appeasement and capitulation to the horrors of Nazi domination.

The Welsh miners, along with nearly all of the UK's population, would have been forced into slave labour at the point of SS guns and most would have died long ago from starvation, cold and terrible hard labour.

The occupants of that Welsh village, sometimes a winner of the Best Kept Village Award, would have fared no better.

Any trace of Jewish heritage and they would have been fodder for the nearest concentration extermination camps and any children born to them would have been subjected to some very severe abuses and/or been used in medical experiments for the greater benefit of the 'true Arian race'.

Shakespeare was right when he suggested that the good a man does is often interred with the bones. We are what we are today – and we can say what we say today because of three great men, heroes in our hours of need; Nelson and Wellington, who won some major battles, but looming large above them is Sir Winston Churchill whose dogged spirit and leadership led us to win a war from an almost impossible position.

W E Henderson, St Athan

Nothing to do but rename streets?

SO the West Camp renaming rumbles on: I too find the name inappropriate in as much as I have every respect for Churchill's war effort, but he was honoured after the war almost in all towns 65 years ago!

The name Churchill Lines, as has been stated, will take ages for locals to use, will in my mind be continually corrupted to Limes and in no way trips off the tongue.

In fact, it encourages you to think there was a battle there and that's where Churchill drew the line!

What irks me most is not the name, but that with the country in such a financial state the MoD employs people at this level with so little to do that they have time to worry what streets are called!

Should this department be earmarked for the first cuts?

Vickey Way, Picketston

Who signs off the expenses for Vale councillors?

ON reading your article in the June 3 edition of The GEM on Vale councillors' allowances, I was intrigued to learn that some £10,000 was paid out in additional expenses, which would suggest that the basic allowance of £13,356 does not cover the day-to-day expenses for what, after all, is a part-time occupation.

It would seem that councillors think that they are entitled to the basic payment whether they incur it or not – along with the special responsibility payment and then another dollop on top.

Only one councillor declined an expenses increase, at a time when everyone was going to be under pressure. No doubt they would argue having a block of £13,356 saves an awful lot on administration.

Maybe it would be interesting to ask who signs these expenses off and what are the justifications for them being paid? Secondly, do we really need 47 people to represent the Vale?

I also note that Bridgend Borough Council operate in very much the same vein.

It would appear that the old idea of public service, for the community's sake and the power and prestige councillors were awarded, along with all the bunts along the way from celebrations and twinning exercises, has gone out of the window. Now it is snouts in the trough.

Is it too much to expect councillors to be arithmetically able to keep proper accounts of their expenses, so that they can have *bona fide* expense claims, as operates in business rather than in government.

John Hopkins, Ogmore by Sea

'Allowances: more information, please'

WITH regard to your report on Vale councillors' allowances, could you now publish additional information:

1. What particular responsibilities require allowances in most cases exceeding the basic allowances?

2. How many meetings could each of our representatives attend and vote and how many times did they, in fact, attend?

EW Williams, Barry

HIGH TIDE TIMES

(UNTIL JUNE 24)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20 – 25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
17 Thur	10.45	9.4	23.12	9.3
18 Fri	11.42	8.8		
19 Sat	00.05	9.2	12.39	8.7
20 Sun	01.01	8.6	13.32	8.4
21 Mon	02.06	8.5	14.39	8.3
22 Tues	03.13	8.3	15.55	8.3
23 Wed	04.19	8.6	16.58	8.5
24 Thur	05.23	8.6	17.53	8.8

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should always check with a tide tablespecific to their location.

USEFUL VALE INFORMATION

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555111
(Emergency number 999)
COASTGUARD 01792 366534
FLOOD LINE 0845 9881188
HELPLINES
Alcohol and drugs:
Drinkline **0800 9178282**
National Drugs Helpline **0800 776600**
DASH **01656 650686**
SSAFA – Forces Help for serving and ex-service men, women and families **01656 785435**
RAF Association Welfare Officer 01495 249522/01446 740522
SAMARITANS (emotional support) **01656 662333**
VALE WOMEN'S AID 01446 744755
MENTAL DISTRESS
(Mental Health Matters) **01656 767045**
Mental Health Helpline:
Freephone **0800 132 737**
MIND in the Vale of Glamorgan
01446 730792 or www.mindinthevale.org.uk
CHILDLINE 0800 1111 - www.childline.org.uk
Rape Crisis Centre 08451 221331.
RSPCA 0300 123 0744. MIND 01446 746191.
AIDS helplines 0800 567123.
Child abuse – NSPCC 0808 800 5000.
Alcoholics Anonymous – (24 hours) 0845 7697555.
Drug Aid (24 hours) 02920 881000.
Inroads Drugs Project – 42, Holton Road, Barry. 01446 404040.
Vale Victim & Witness Support - Barry Magistrates Court, Thompson Street, Barry CF63 4SX. 01446 730704.

MP & AM's SURGERY TIMES

New MP Alun Cairns is still finalising his contact details but, to make a surgery appointment with Mr Cairns, contact the constituency office on 01446 733516 or e-mail alun@aluncairns.com

To make a surgery appointment with Jane Hutt AM, contact the constituency office (01446) 740981. Office hours are 9am-5pm. Answerphone service outside office hours.

CITIZENS' ADVICE

At 119 Broad Street, Barry. Drop in Mon-Fri (not Weds) 9.30am - 4.30am (Wed 11am-6pm); at Llantwit Major Youth Centre, Station Road 9.30am - 11.30am Mon and Fri. Telephone advice 0845 120 3756. *Further information www.adviceguide.org.uk*

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Police - Gladstone Road, Barry; for normal service 01446 734451; in emergency 999. Fire - South Wales Fire and Rescue Service, Pontyclun 01443 232000; in emergency 999. Coastguard - Regional Office, Swansea 01792 366534; in emergency 999.

Gas - Gas emergency number 0800 111999.

Electricity - Emergency 0800 0520400; Water - Emergency 0800 052 0130; supply 0800 0520130.

Trading Standards Consumer Advice Centre - Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry; hours of opening for telephone enquiries - Monday to Thursday, 8.30am-5pm; Friday 8.30am-4.30pm on 01446 700111. For personal visits, Monday to Thursday 9am-4.30pm. Friday 9am-4pm. Recycling Hotline, 01446 700111.

To report a fly tipping incident - 01446 700111.

HOSPITALS

The Barry Hospital - visiting 2pm-8pm each day, 01446 704000. Llandough - Wards have individual visiting times. For details call 029 2071 1711. Princess of Wales - 01656 752752/668090.

For Out Of Hours Chemists, call the Vale of Glamorgan Local Health Board on 02920 350600, or NHS Direct Wales on 0845 4647.

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Published by: Glamorgan GEM Limited, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge. CF71 7EL and printed by North Wales Newspapers.

Father and son raise £700 for Sport Relief on their cycle run

Enjoying the view on a break from all that cycling!

COWBRIDGE father and son, Chris and Rhys Harris, have completed their 'descent of Wales'.

They have cycled from Holyhead on Anglesey back to Cowbridge, a total of 252 miles, over 24 hours' riding time, 12 punctures and a total climb of more than 3,000 metres, which means that it was not all downhill at all!

Chris said: "The trip was quite hard in places and carrying our own equipment in panniers was a challenge, but most enjoyable. We went through some magnificent scenery and were really able to appreciate what a beautiful country we live in."

The two managed to raise nearly £700 for Sport Relief and Chris thanked GEM readers for their support.

He and Rhys also wished the Hitchcock and Rees family well in their fundraising efforts, when they cycle from John O'Groats back to Cowbridge in the summer.

Pupil's car wash will fund summer charity project...

A LOCAL school pupil is inviting Cowbridge car owners to come along to a charity car wash – with proceeds going to fund work in "Europe's poorest country".

Simon Gooding, 17, who is a pupil at Cowbridge Comprehensive School, will be heading off to eastern Europe to work on a charity project this summer.

Simon is currently studying for his end-of-term exams, but when he returns, he hopes to join the police force.

He told The GEM: "I have been accepted to be a volunteer on a project to Moldova this summer with the organisation 'Mission Direct'.

"Joining the project will give me an opportunity to travel to the poorest country in Europe, where I will be involved in renovating a building to be used as a centre for some of the poorest families,

"I will also help with some children's activities."

To fund the trip, Simon and some friends are organising a charity car wash this Sunday, June 20, at Cowbridge Fire Station.

A percentage of the donations will also go to a fire service charity.

Simon added: "I am intending to write an article about the Moldovian charity work when I get back".

Police offer some valuable advice

POLICE in the Vale and Bridgend have warned motorists not to leave valuables in their cars when unattended, following a rise in autocrime at local coastal car parks.

Central Division's Detective Chief Inspector Lorraine Davies, explained: "There have been a number of thefts from motor cars recently when they have been left by visitors to the Vale's beaches while going for walks.

"All too often, motorists have left personal belongings visible in their cars when they have left them to go for a walk along the beaches or coastal paths at popular sea-side locations such as Ogmore-by-Sea, Southerndown and Nash Point."

Rural Vale neighbourhood Inspector Mark Taylor, added: "As well as targeting potential autocrime, we will continue to clamp down on any drugs use in the area.

"Our beaches and local attractions are places for everyone to enjoy all year round and we hope that this continues to be the case."

Knife brings a court warning

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Recorder Elwan Evans said: "If you come before the court again for being in possession of a knife or firearm, no excuse of carelessness or forgetfulness will wash."

The court heard he had a previous conviction for possessing a firearm without a certificate.

His counsel, Mike Hammett said: "He has certain problems he must address.

"The knife was to be used for sporting purposes.

"There was no intention to use it for a criminal purpose. He said he was a carer for two children and had overcome anything to do with drugs."

The Recorder said he had pleaded guilty on the basis that he was a keen fisherman, and the knife was his fishing knife, which he had forgotten to remove from the car.

She added: "We are all aware of the public concern of people being in possession of knives."

She said the police officer in the case was willing to accept that the possession of the knife was consistent with his basis of plea.

News from the Gwynfa Camera Club

GWYNFA Camera Club was founded 30 years ago by a group of like-minded people with a strong interest in photography, and has roots originating at Gwynfa Hall in Church Village.

Members, both amateurs and professionals, come from all walks of life, with a catchment encompassing a wide geographic area.

Gwynfa membership numbers have continued to expand to more than 100, and the club is now the largest camera club in Wales. Meetings are held at Caerlan Hall, Newbridge Road, Llantrisant, on Thursday evenings from 7.30pm-9.30pm.

Photographic Federation

In the wider world, the photographic/camera clubs are affiliated to the Welsh Photographic Federation, consisting of 49 clubs throughout Wales, with a membership total of around 1,300 people.

If you are really interested in photography, why not join a club and learn how to improve your skills and learn how to achieve 'your masterpiece' too? Interested readers can find a list of clubs at www.thewpf.co.uk

Gwynfa wins

Ace of clubs 2010 was recently held at Talbot Green Community Centre when a full house of 100-plus supporters witnessed a 15-way battle of this annual interclub photographic competition.

Each participating club submitted a bank of 30 prints for critique appraisals. The three judges were: Tony Byram, Barry Mead and Peter R Gennard.

The international style judging of 2-5 marking was used, where a maximum score of 15 could be awarded for each individual entry. This was an educational experience, where differentiating the high standard of quality entries was the order of the day.

The winners were Gwynfa CC with a final score of 180 marks, with runners-up being Tenby CC with 174 marks. Both clubs have been invited to represent Wales/Welsh Photographic Federation (WPF), at the annual Photographic Alliance of Great Britain (PAGB) competition to be held at Warwick University on Saturday, July 17.

Gwynfa Camera Club's summer exhibition runs until July 2 (free admission) at Garth Olwg, Life Long Learning Centre, St Illtyd's Road, Church Village.

For the first time, the summer exhibition will include both prints and digital images. In total, there will be 44 prints and more than 200 projected images, with a run time of approximately 20 minutes.

BETTY WALKER

WHIST DRIVE

THE Llancarfan Society is holding a whist drive at the village hall on Tuesday, June 29 at 7.30pm.

Admission will be £1 and there will be prizes, a raffle and refreshments.

Other dates for the diary are July 27, August 31, September 28, October 26, November 30 and December 28.

NEWS FROM THE COWBRIDGE U3A

Gardening expert is an inspiration

BBC RADIO 2's gardening expert came to Cowbridge recently to give a talk to U3A members.

Terry Walton is his name and he appears regularly on Jeremy Vine's radio show, where he gives live commentaries on the work he is doing, direct from his allotment on a Rhondda Hillside.

If any members came to the meeting mistakenly believing it was Terry Wogan, they were certainly not disappointed by the end of the presentation. The talk was very entertaining and informative.

Terry was born in the Rhondda and has lived in south Wales all his life. He has been gardening since he was four years old and became an allotment holder at the age of 11.

He was discovered by Jeremy Vine seven years ago, and has been a regular ever since. Jeremy has said that " every time he appears on the programme we feel that life is worth living. He has the power to lift your spirits".

Those of us who were fortunate enough to be at Wednesday's meeting would certainly endorse that point of view.

The talk was illustrated by a slide show and we were left in amazement at just how much Terry packs into his allotment, which is about the size of a tennis court. His greenhouse is a converted World War Two 'prefab'. His allotment provides him and his wife with all their vegetable needs for 10 months of the year.

Terry is also an enthusiastic supporter of organic gardening.

If you get the opportunity to hear Terry talk 'live' don't miss it. In the meantime, tune into his regular broadcasts on the Jeremy Vine show.

BOB CLARKE

LIFT GROUP'S THANK YOU TO LOOSE BOOTS!

Members and friends of the Cowbridge LIFT group.

THE LIFT Group would like to say a big thank you to local line dancing group 'Loose Boots' for inviting us to participate in their fundraising dance last Saturday in Llantwit Major, when £290 was raised for Breast Cancer Campaign UK.

Thanks especially to Ruth the DJ, Jean and Brenda and the organiser, Charles Allen.

The next meeting of the LIFT Group is on Wednesday, June 23 between 10am-1pm. Come join us for relaxation therapies! There will be an Osteoporosis Awareness talk on July 7 between 2pm-4pm.

For more information, contact 01446 772843 or 749756. **JB**

Pupils' election day had a 'green' theme

"GIVE ME YOUR VOTE!"

PUPILS at St David's C/W Primary School, Colwinston, celebrated World Environment Day by holding an election day.

Members of the 'healthy schools group', 'Eco-warriors' and the 'Fairtrade steering group' had been campaigning hard for four weeks, promoting the benefits of their policies and ideas to staff and pupils.

On election day, committee leaders presented their speech in assembly and then in the afternoon, MCs (members of committees) visited different classes to take a question and answer forum.

Each pupil had a vote and the winning committee was 'healthy schools' by just one vote!

During the leader's acceptance speech, Maya Bell said: "We are so pleased that all our efforts have been rewarded. The other groups were amazing, so we are really surprised we won."

The class teacher and committees coordinator, Leah Croke, said: "We work really closely with both groups and look forward to generating ideas and action plans for the forthcoming year, and hope that all pupils will get involved in projects in school and at home."

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MAN'S MARATHON RIDE FOR HIS WIFE (and Kidney Wales)

A St Athan man has completed an epic 515 mile cycle challenge – and all for the love of his wife!

Nick Wager, a sergeant at RAF St Athan, wanted to support his wife Melanie who is a kidney patient at the University Hospital of Cardiff.

So Nick decided to tackle a five day marathon cycle, in which he visited all of the 14 dialysis units in Wales, to raise money for one of the country's most deserving causes.

Nick, who began the ride in Llantrisant and ended it in Cardiff on June 5, explained: "Every penny is important for Kidney Wales, but I feel it is also important to raise awareness. Joining the Organ Donor Register could make such a difference to someone like my wife, by giving her another chance of life.

"The first day was difficult to plan heading west from Llantrisant because I couldn't go on the M4.

"When I hit the hills in Carmarthen, I learned to love them – it gave the ride some variety!

"On the next day, I was looking forward to seeing Pembrokeshire National Park, but there was reduced visibility.

"The comedian Eddie Izzard recently did walking marathons day after day, and said you get used to it. That's true, the body gets accustomed to the physical side of it.

"It wasn't a race, it was a test of endurance and I kept up an average speed of 15mph."

The couple went round Wales in a clockwise direction taking in Haverfordwest, Aberystwyth, Porthmadog, Bangor and Wrexham, before heading homeward.

During the trip Melanie, who acted as a roadie and masseur in the couple's VW campervan, had a dialysis session in Bodelwyddan.

Melanie has lived with renal failure for the past 22 years and has been waiting for her third kidney transplant for the past five years.

Unlike most people suffering with renal failure, Melanie is able to dialyse at home. This is only possible with the support of her husband Nick, who juggles a full time service career with caring for her.

Melanie said: "Nick has supported me through thick and thin. However, I live in hope that tomorrow might be the day my phone rings calling me to the hospital.

"Tomorrow might be the day I stop monitoring every mouthful I eat and every millilitre I drink!"

Melanie longs for the day when she isn't dependent on a machine to keep her alive. "Tomorrow might be the day my husband stops being my carer and goes back to being my partner."

If people would like to support Nick and Melanie they should go to: www.everydayhero.co.uk/nickwager.

For more information about organ donation, please go to: www.donatewales.org

ABOVE:
Nick and Melanie Wager completed a marthon trip around Wales for Kidney Wales with Nick cycling and Melanie acting as roadie.

by TIM CHAPMAN

New head for Primary School

PUPILS and staff at Llancarfan Primary School recently welcomed new headteacher, Mrs Sally Brereton, and bid a fond farewell to acting deputy headteacher, Mr Richard Bailey.

Sally Brereton has joined Llancarfan having spent over five years as deputy headteacher at Llanilltud Fawr Primary School, whilst Richard Bailey has taken up the role of deputy headteacher at Llanilltud Fawr Primary School.

Huw Lewis, who had been acting Headteacher since the departure of Mrs Sarah Morgan, said: "I thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of the position and Richard provided a tremendous amount of input and was a huge support as acting deputy head.

"We are extremely pleased to have Sally as part of the team here at Llancarfan and look forward to a bright future for the school under her leadership."

Mrs Brereton added: "Llancarfan and Llanilltud Fawr share many similarities so I felt at home immediately. I would like to thank everyone for their support so far, in particular the staff and pupils. I am very excited about the future of the school – it already offers such an excellent foundation for learning and I look forward to developing this even further."

COWBRIDGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL SPORTING ROUND-UP

Katie is Vale's top sports personality

KATIE Bradbury has won the Vale of Glamorgan Sports Personality of the Year award, beating a host of other Vale students.

Katie (in year–11) won the award for her golf and squash achievements. These include:

Golf

- Represented Wales under-16s at Scottish under-16s Championships and European Young Masters,
- Represented Wales Girls' team at Girls Home International matches and European Girls' team championships,
- Represented Wales women's team at women's home international matches (Wales won the title),
- Current member of Tier One of Golf Union Wales combined National Squad (highest level of three).

Squash

- Winner Vale and Newport Junior Open.
- Represented south east Wales at under-17 and under-19 levels in English and Wales inter county championships (the under-17 team were champions),
- Member of Wales 'young ladies' national squad,
- Selected to represent Wales under-18 team in international matches against England and Scotland.

ATHLETICS AT the Cardiff and Vale county championships, Cowbridge under-15 girls' athletics team won the team event, beating Cardiff High and Bro Morgannwg.

Team: Annabel Curle, Izzy Eddy Williams, Rebecca John, Miriam Bennett, Sarah Lewis, Nancie Edwards, Caitlin Alin, Joanna Wilkins, Isobel Armour, Anna Wayne.

Katie (right) with sister Gemma, also a Welsh international.

COMMUNITY NEWS
ST BRIDES MAJOR

Your local correspondent is Patricia Bevan-Morgan (01656) 880418

THE Ladies Thursday Club on June 10 had a return visit by Mr Jarvis, who gave an interesting talk with slides on the subject of 'kitchen utensils' of the past.

THE funeral took place on Friday June 11 of Murial Hopla, late of Lon-y-Eglwys, with a service at St Bridget's church, where she was a worshipper; she was also a member of the Mothers' Union. This was followed by cremation at Coychurch.

THE coffee morning at the church hall on Saturday was again well attended and the hall was be-decked with the flags of all the nations that qualified to take part in the World Cup in South Africa.

THE Slade Farm (Pitcot) open day was successful on a sunny day – lots of activities including meet the animals, guess the weight of the bull, guided biodiversity trail, tractor rides and many more.

WICK Chapel – Dates for the diary up to the August break: June 27, annual flower communion (exchange a small posy). July 11, celebration of past members. July 25, minister Julianne's 20th anniversary as chapel lay-reader. All services commence at 3pm and will re-commence with a service on Sunday September 12. All are welcome.

School's open day at St Brides Major

ST Brides Major Church in Wales Primary School will be holding an open day on June 24 at 10am-3pm.

The gardens are also open for the national gardens scheme on Sunday, June 27.

Acting headteacher, Clare Matthews, said: "'Love Learning for Life' is the motto of our school. St Brides has also recently been awarded a prize for the development of modern languages at the school.

"Throughout the year, language clubs such as Spanish and Mandarin Chinese provide a fun and exciting way to learn. The school is delighted to have been recognised for the hard work it undertakes in this area."

For more information, telephone 01656 880477.

A St Brides Major Church in Wales pupil whisking up a storm!

COMMUNITY NEWS
TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

Your local correspondent is Nancy Davidge, "Tynewydd", Llangan. (01656) 860303

Dr Who

FOR more than seven days, our St Mary Hill church became a wonderland for the filming of a *Dr Who* film.

Church organist, Mrs Mary Lloyd, told me it was amazing how the interior of the church was transformed for the making of the film.

Great care was taken of the organ and the seats, which were removed. Unfortunately, when I visited the site there only remained the workmen, who were busy cleaning and replacing everything.

St Mary's and the surrounding area was chosen because there was very little interference with traffic, and ample parking was available in a nearby field. The film will be shown later this year.

Community council

THE annual general meeting of Llangan Community council took place on Monday, June 14.

Coun Linda Vafidis, who had carried her duties as chairperson for the past year so admirably, was congratulated by Coun Keith Jones who will take over as chairman for 2010-2011.

Treoes councillor L West informed the council that grass on the playing field in Treoes was in urgent need of cutting.

Fferm Goch matters needing urgent attention included the 'no horses' sign; the broken sign at the entrance to Heol Llidiard and signs throughout Treoes, Llangan and St Mary Hill need cleaning.

All these problems will be attended to when money is available.

Skittle night

LLANGAN and St Mary Hill village hall will hold a skittle night with a new 26ft portable skittle alley, on Saturday, June 19 – doors open 7pm.

Everyone will receive a warm welcome but children must be accompanied by an adult.

More on the forthcoming activities at a later date.

JAW-JAW NOT WAR

JOHN SOROTOS of Thira Cottage, Westgate, Cowbridge, has written a fascinating account of his war years called *A Sailor's Tale – jaw-jaw please, not war,* which has earned the praise of many critics, including Dr Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury.

One critic Dr Dominic Luckett writes: "There is certainly a huge amount of fascinating detail in your writings and you very skillfully put your own personal memories within the broader context of the war and the events leading to it."

John Prichard,chief executive the Naval Club, London, writes: I think your recollections are ideal for a school project and well targeted at that age group and level of knowledge."

Mr Sorotos wrote the book after his grandson Jacob asked him to tell him about his war experiences for a school project and all proceeds of the book, which can be obtained in the Cowbridge Bookshop and W G Davies, the Newsagents, Cowbridge, or direct from Mr Sorotos (telephone 01446771837).

BRIAN LEE

Flower festival

LLANTRISANT Parish Church is holding a flower festival on July 2.

The event opens with a floral demonstration by Bob Harris on Friday July 2 at 7.30pm in the parish church (admission £5).

On Saturday, July 3, a concert by Cor Meibion soloist Menna Davies at 7.30pm in the parish church (admission £5).

The church will be open throughout the weekend, entrance fee £2. All proceeds to the church organ fund.

Refreshments will be served in the church hall on Saturday and Sunday, and the festival will end with a 'Gymanfa Ganu' on Sunday night at 6.00pm.

Timeless tale to be told at St Donat's

THE story is timeless: the innocent girl who falls in love with the dashing youth, who is then tempted from her side by the prospect of adventure, leaving her heart-broken.

It served as the spur to one of Henry Purcell's most glorious scores, *Dido and Aeneas*, which may also have symbolised for a late 17th century audience Britain being tricked by the forces of Roman Catholicism.

Dido and Aeneas takes the classical tale of the Trojan Aeneas, who arrives at the court of the Carthaginian queen, Dido, on his way to found Rome.

It includes the hauntingly beautiful solo *Dido's Lament*.

Dido and Aeneas is to be performed by Wales' specialist early music choir, the Welsh Camerata, and soloists from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, accompanied by the Welsh Baroque Orchestra, under early music specialist Andrew Wilson-Dickson, with Baroque dance interludes enacted by the Consort de Danse Baroque.

The producer is the west Wales mezzo soprano Buddug Verona James, who also plays the role of the Sorceress.

The first half includes choral and dance extracts from *The Fairy Queen*, by Purcell, a so-called 'masque' (or musical adornment) based around Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, interspersed with short readings from the play itself.

Curtain up is at St Donat's Arts Centre, on Sunday, June 20 beginning at 3pm.

For tickets, contact 01446 799100, or email: enquiries@stdonats.com

COWBRIDGE BRIDGE RESULTS

VALE of Glamorgan Club, Monday, June 7.

1st, Mike Best and Kevin Maddox, 59.72 per cent; 2nd, Marjorie Morris and Bill Turner, 59.49; 3rd, Vida Halford and Glyn Willams, 56.94; 4th, Mary Moore and Diane Jones, 55.32; 5th, Terry Evans and Alan Lewis, 53.01; 6th, Pat and Brian Swain, 52.78; 6th, John Henson and Alan Williams, 52.08.

Cowbridge & District Bridge Club, June 8 – 1st, Marian East and Pauline McAllen, 64.29; 2nd, Barbara and Colin Easterbrook, 62.30; 3rd, Teri Pollard and David Wright, 61.11; 4th, Pam Higgs and Joyce Birmingham, 59.92; 4th, Sara Bartlett and Anne Hughes, 54.76; 5th, Mary Thomas and John Ireson, 53.97.

CARDIFF CROWN COURT ROUND-UP

10 years jail for father who stabbed his son nine times

REPORTS by AJ SICLUNA

A FATHER who stabbed his son nine times has been jailed for 10-and-a-half years at Cardiff Crown Court.

When the victim, Nicholas Lincoln, was seen in an alley in the centre of Barry after the attack, "Blood was pumping out of him," said prosecutor Michael Jones.

Ivan Lincoln, 60, unemployed of Barry, pleaded guilty to wounding his son *with intent* to do him grevious bodily harm.

He denied a charge of attempted murder, which was accepted by the prosecution and was ordered to be left on the file.

Mr Jones pointed out that had there been a trial, the victim would have been a hostile witness.

Mr Justice Lloyd-Jones said: "There has to be a substantial term of imprisonment."

He said he had set out to meet his son with a knife, which he intended to use if there was a confrontation.

Mr Jones said that on December 22, Ann James, who works in a hair salon in Barry, spoke to the victim.

He left and 45 minutes later she saw him walk past the salon twice, when he appeared to be normal.

But shortly after, Matthew Gannon saw him "pale and wide-eyed."

Mr Lincoln said: "I have just been stabbed," and was bleeding heavily. The police and ambulance were called and paramedics attended him.

He was said to be "bleeding loads" and said: "Tell my mother I love her."

Sally-Anne Williams saw the attack and saw the victim trying to defend himself and being chased by his father in Jewell Street.

Ivan Lincoln said: "You've been asking for this for years. I'm going to kill you.

"You are just like your ..... mother. I'm going to kill you."

He then gave up the chase.

The weapon, said Mr Jones, was described as "like a chopping knife" with a seven-inch blade.

It was never recovered

Mr Jones said the wounded Mr Lincoln was slumped against a wall.

He had four wounds to the front of his chest, four to his back, and one to his buttock.

He said: "I can't breathe, I'm dying, get my mother."

"He was given oxygen, and air was released from his chest.

"For some reason, he tried to expulcate his father and said another person had stabbed him."

Mr Jones said he was in a life-threatening condition and was taken to the University Hospital of Wales.

One stab wound had penetrated the abdominal cavity but luckily, had missed vital organs.

He was in intensive care for 12 hours and was discharged two weeks later.

The defendant was arrested on December 31, when he gave himself up at Cardiff Bay Police Station.

He said "no comment." to every question.

"His son's life was saved by emergency medical intervention" said Mr Jones.

The court heard that the defendant had a previous conviction for possession of cannabis with intent to supply, and had been jailed for 15 months.

Vincent Coughlan QC, defending, said: "This is a very unusual case, where there has been long-standing tension between father and son.

"He claims Nicholas Lincoln had been 'off the rails for some years'"

He added: "I am not here to blacken his name, but his character cannot be ignored."

Ivan Lincoln, he said, was a placid family man, fond of fishing, who was now full of remorse.

One son works as a manager in Harrods in London.

It was he said, an isolated incident in which Nicholas Lincoln had lashed out immediately they met.

Barry man jailed for harassing ex-partner

AN "obsessive, manipulative man" who could not accept the end of his relationship, has been jailed for a total of 16 months at Cardiff Crown Court.

Shane Regan, 36, of Barry, pleaded guilty to the breach of a two-year restraining order in respect of his former partner Nicola Tyrrell.

Recorder Elwan Evans, in addition to the prison sentence, extended the restraining order to five years.

She said that Regan had a "selfish, self-absorbed attitude to the relationship".

Prosecutor Julian Greenwood said he received a suspended four-month prison sentence at Cardiff Crown Court in February for breaching the order, but while subject to that, from March 6 - 29, he breached the order further.

Regan admitted this, but not to the extent claimed by the prosecution.

He said they had had a relationship for five years which ended in September.

He denied going to Ms Tyrell's house and removing patio slabs he had laid At the time, he was doing unpaid work for the community.

He also denied texting her "you deserve everything you've got coming.

"I tried but you haven't got a decent bone in your body."

He accepted he should not have contacted his ex-partner either directly or indirectly.

Ms Tyrrell gave evidence from behind a screen and the Recorder described her as a modest and credible witness.

Regan's counsel, Vaughan Britton, said he accepted the case crossed the custody threshold and he added: "No breakdown of a relatonship should have resulted in conduct of this kind.

"But he wrongly thought there wotld be a rekindling of that relationship. There was no physical violence whatsoever."

Man jailed after beating woman 'black and blue'

A VULNERABLE woman's face was "black and blue" after her partner attacked her.

Philip Jenkins, 54, of Barry, was jailed for a year after admitting causing Denise Hallett actual bodily harm, and assaulting her.

Judge Stephen Hopkins said at Cardiff Crown Court that she was a vulnerable victim who for many years had endured a violent relationship at the hands of someone else.

Said the judge: "Men like you make me ashamed to be a man."

He said that after being arrested, Jenkins said to the police: "I don't.....believe this. She starts on me but I made sure I finished it."

The judge added: "You said you were in love with her. You have a very funny way of showing it."

Prosecutor Sian Edwards said: "Ms Hallett moved in with Jenkins last August.

"On January 25, she told him she had a job and would have to stay with her grandmother on certain nights."

Jenkins became aggressive, and shouted that she didn't love him before head butting her in the face, pulling her hair, and pouring a cup of hot tea over her head.

Jenkins then obtained a knife and cut both his forearms, which bled heavily.

The following day, he became abusive, put on a porn film and slapped and punched her in the face, cutting her mouth. Seconds later, he tried to stab himself in the back and stomach.

Jenkins was said to have a previous conviction for assaulting a former partner.

Ian Ibrahim, defending, said: "He accepts the crown's case. The two are now separated and there has been no contact.

"He was in love with her, did not want the relationship to end, and feared loneliness."

GARDENS OPEN

A VARIETY of local gardens will welcome visitors during Pentyrch Open Garden weekend, including traditional cottage gardens, kitchen gardens, family gardens and the local church garden on July 10-11, 10am-5pm Saturday; 11am-5pm Sunday).

Contact 029 2089 9331: website: www.pentyrchopengardens.co.uk for details.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: DO YOU KNOW YOUR CORRECT RECYCLING AND REFUSE COLLECTION DAY?

This week (w/c 14 June) your recycling and waste collections changed.

You should have received a card like this telling you what day your recycling is now collected on **EVERY WEEK**.

On the reverse of the card is a calendar like this which tells you which alternate week your black bag waste is collected. Remember, this will be the same day of the week as your recycling, but will be **EVERY FORTNIGHT**.

For some areas your collection day will have changed so please check your coloured card carefully.

If you are still unsure, you or a friend/family member can log on to www.bridgend.gov.uk. On the front page you will see a **'check your recycling and waste collection day'** link where you can enter your address or postcode to find your correct collection day.

If you are still unclear or don't have access to a computer you can call Bridgend County Borough Council on 643643.

Use this simple checklist to help you:

- First check your card and calendar to check your weekly recycling day and which alternate week your waste will be collected.
- If you are still not sure or have lost your card, check on www.bridgend.gov.uk
- If you are still not clear call Bridgend County Borough Council on 643643 or email talktous@bridgend.gov.uk

A big thank you for all your help and cooperation in this important new scheme to create a cleaner, greener Bridgend County Borough.

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FOLLOW THE (Vale Council) LEADER

by Coun
GORDON KEMP
Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council

WHAT good news to hear that work will soon start on the renovation of Barry's historic Pumphouse.

The Grade II listed building is a striking feature of the town's skyline and restoring the building and creating the opportunity to bring it back into use will be a real achievement.

The work has been funded by the Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) and the Vale Council and is from funding earmarked for regeneration projects such as this.

I'd like to thank the officers involved for their hard work in winning this funding from WAG for the Vale.

Barry has recently been declared a Strategic Regeneration Area by the Assembly, and we look forward to seeing many more projects progressed in the town.

Cadoxton House scaremongering

Barry has also been in the news recently regarding the future of Cadoxton House.

Unfortunately one local newspaper – *not The GEM of course!* – has incorrectly reported our plans for the building.

Cadoxton House will become a 'one-stop' service for those who have been affected by domestic abuse and alcohol abuse.

There have never been any plans, as incorrectly reported, to house a 'rehab' centre for drug addicts in the building, and it is scaremongering in the extreme to suggest so.

The services that will be housed in the building are already provided in Barry, and bringing them together in one location will improve the overall service offered.

Once the work on the building is finished, we will hold an open day to allow local residents to see what Cadoxton House will offer.

Again, what good news – another disused building being brought back to life.

PENARTH TOWN CENTRE

I know there are frustrations in Penarth around the work needed to complete the new one-way system.

This has certainly been exacerbated by two of the utility companies also undertaking work at the same time as the council.

We ask residents to bear with us and we apologise for the inconvenience.

The changes to Penarth roads have been planned with the best interests of the town in mind and, when the work is complete, we believe the improvements will be worth the wait.

We are aware that there are also concerns about the Vale links to the new Pont y Werin, due to open in July.

Please can I assure residents that our cabinet member for planning and transportation, Coun Jeff James and his officers, are working hard to find a solution.

This was always going to be problem for the Vale – there is a great deal of difference between linking a very busy, long established town to a new transport link, and linking a relatively newly-developed area such as Cardiff Bay.

ACTIVE JOLLY NEEDS A GUIDING HAND

The GEM has joined forces with the Dog's Trust to find caring new owners for animals at its Bridgend Rehoming Centre (Telephone: 01656 725219)

JOLLY.

THIS WEEK a spokeswoman highlights Jolly, a two-year-old Labrador Cross:

"She is very nervous and reactive around strangers and needs careful introductions to new people. Once she trusts you, she is a fantastic young dog, very playful and bouncy!

"She gets on with other dogs and will benefit from living with a similar sized dog that is confident and well socialised.

"She is very active and loves to play fetch."

Jolly needs an experienced owner who has trained dogs before and who is willing to continue her training and socialisation.

She will need an adult only home. Her new owner will need to be active and able to provide her with plenty of off-lead exercise.

Anyone interested in adopting her will need to meet her at the centre a few times to allow her time to get to know them.

The trust's summer fete and fun dog show is on Sunday, July 4, at Margam Country Park (Twyn yr Hydd House entrance), from 11am-4pm.

Ysgol Bro teachers at 'Oscars' style award ceremony

IT was a tense Monday this week at Ysgol Bro Morgannwg, after two senior staff at the school found themselves sitting nervously at an 'Oscars'-style awards ceremony.

The event, at Cardiff City Hall, was the National Teaching Awards and the double nomination was a good way of celebrating the school's 10th anniversary, which is in September.

Dr Dylan Jones was a finalist in the NCSL Award in the 'Headteacher of the Year in a Secondary School' category, and Dilwyn Owen, the IT subject leader, was a finalist in the category for the 'Becta Award for Next Generation Learning'.

Just to add to the 'Oscars' feel, a special guest at the ceremony was the actor and author Henry Winkler, best known as 'The Fonz' from *Happy Days,* who is a patron of the teaching awards.

The finalists – from all over Wales in 11 categories – were introduced by BBC presenter Sian Lloyd.

When it came to the result, there was double delight for the school, when headteacher Dr Dylan Jones received a commendation in his category.

However, Dylan was happy to be upstaged by Dilwyn, as Mr Owen took the top award in his category – in recognition of the school's use of new IT technology to improve students' studying arrangements.

Dilwyn Owen has guided the school's use of IT ever since it opened, and has used social networking, blogs and video conferencing as teaching aids.

Each of the 11 winners received a 'Plato' – the teaching awards symbol of excellence in education. Distinctions and commendations were also presented.

The teaching awards were founded by Lord Puttnam CBE in 1998, to focus on inspired professionals.

ABOVE: Ysgol Bro Morgannwg headteacher Dr Dylan Jones (left) and Dilwyn Owen, the school's IT leader.

Senedd's discussion on Vale bridle ways

THE lack of bridle ways for horse riders was raised in the Senedd by Plaid Cymru AM Chris Franks.

He did so following a meeting with constituents, who explained their difficulties while horse riding.

Mr Franks, who lives in the Vale, said: "Minister, there is quite rightly a growing appreciation of the need to provide cycleways and to maintain rights of way for walkers. However, there is concern about the lack of bridle ways across the countryside.

"Many horse riders have suffered abuse from other road users, and a worrying 13 per cent of them have experienced a road traffic incident.

"What action are you taking to address the need to provide off-road routes for riders?"

Minister Jane Davidson replied: "To focus on the Vale, since that is your area, the local council there is working to extend and improve its bridle way and byway network.

"The Vale Council is working with Creative Rural Communities to develop its first promoted bridle way route, linking and extending the existing paths in the Llansannor area."

Mr Franks added: "It is good that work is being undertaken around Llansannor. However, this is very limited.

"There is a significant growth in horse riding in the Vale. Quite rightly there is a focus on walking and cycle ways, but we need to also consider bridle ways."

Joshua's fundraising 'hair' event

THE Hair Studio in Llantwit Major is holding an open evening at the salon on Tuesday, June 22, between 6pm-8pm.

There will be demonstrations to include: hairstyling, Reiki, reflexology, massage and more!

A spokewoman said: "We are supporting Miss Vale of Glamorgan, Courtenay Hamilton, for the Miss Wales competition and all donations and raffle proceeds will be given to the Joshua Foundation."

For further details, telephone 01446 795580.

Charity coffee

THERE will be a charity coffee morning in All Saints Lesser Hall, Victoria, Penarth, on Saturday, June 19, 10am-noon.

Entry 50p, to include a cup of tea/coffee. All proceeds to charity.

Cats Protection, Pant Hirwaun, Bryncethin, Bridgend CF32 9UJ
Tel: 01656 726621 • Fax: 01656 722012
Email: bridgend.manager@cats.org.uk

Shadow enjoys garden stroll!

SHADOW is a neutered 10-year-old who has been in Cats Protection care since January, as her owners were moving and couldn't take her with them.

"We are looking for a home without other animals and no young children as Shadow likes the quiet life.

"She has gorgeous long fur and likes a little brush, but not too much.

"We feel that Shadow hasn't shown us her true personality in here and going into a loving home will bring out her gentle side. She is independent and will love a stroll in the garden," said a spokeswoman.

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We need to protect our public services in underfunded Wales *on way to economic recovery*

ASSEMBLY NOTES

by ***Jane Hutt AM*** **(Minister for Business and Budget)**

IT was great to join the celebration of staff and pupils, former and present, at Barry Comprehensive School's 50th anniversary last Saturday.

As we enjoyed the Barry sunshine, the pupils of Barry Comprehensive and the Barry Sixth Form presented us with first class entertainment, including extracts from their GCSE and 'A' Level Theatre Studies.

Wonderfully compered by Norman Pereira, we heard from many former staff members and pupils, like himself, who reminisced about their days at Barry Comprehensive.

The programme from the official opening of the Port Road site was reproduced for the 50th anniversary.

In it, we saw photos of former county councillors EC Gough and Dorothy Rees (a former Labour MP for Barry), who gave addresses at the opening with a call to employers, parents and students who were asked "to take full advantage of the facilities offered by the well-equipped buildings which have been designed to serve the community."

All the parents and pupils I talked to expressed their deep admiration for their school, their head teacher, David Swallow, and his staff, all of which I am proud to endorse. The talent, enthusiasm, motivation and enjoyment from the performing pupils was a joy to experience.

We are also celebrating the 50th anniversary of Barry College this year, another highly successful educational institution serving the Vale of Glamorgan so effectively.

I would like to applaud all the Vale schools for their achievements, both primary and secondary, demonstrating how effectively our public services are delivering first class education in this county. These public services must be valued as we face the most difficult times ahead, with reducing budgets and difficult decisions to make nationally and locally.

I made that point when I met with the new Chief Secretary to the Treasury last week, Danny Alexander MP. It was a very constructive meeting and I was pleased that he agreed Wales should not receive a cut as a consequence of the reduction in the Olympics budget as a result of my representations.

He also agreed to meet Gerry Holtham, who has led an independent commission into our UK Government funding allocations for Wales.

We have consistently made the case that Wales has been underfunded and this has been backed by all political parties in the Assembly, so we hope to make some progress in addressing this.

It is vital that we do so as we seek to safeguard and protect our public services, and that means our schools and health service.

We have always been proactive as a Government in Wales.

We sought to lead Wales out of the recession with our public capital investment in schools, hospitals and housing over the most difficult times in 2009/10, assisting the construction industry in Wales, who invested in apprenticeships as part of their contribution, and building new schools (like Cowbridge Comprehensive School) with Welsh Assembly Government funding.

Recent statistics on household incomes show that there is a more extreme variation of household income in London than in Wales.

The gap between rich and poor is less in Wales than elsewhere and these figures released by the Office of National Statistics also show that Wales has seen the greatest increase in average income, rising 16 per cent over the past few years.

This makes it all the more important that we do continue to invest in education and skills, to make sure we have more highly-skilled jobs, to help secure the recovery and build a more prosperous as well as more equal Wales.

That is why we are creating an economic renewal programme to ensure the money we spend on economic development has the right focus and positions the Welsh economy to compete effectively with the rest of the world.

Youth club table top sale

THERE will be a 'table top' sale at the community centre on Stewart Road, Rhoose, on June 26, 10am-1pm.

Funds raised will go towards purchasing ICT facilities for the youth members. Entry is 50p and members of the public can buy a table to sell their own goods for £7.50.

For details, contact Annette Harrison, senior youth worker on 01446 710664 or 07891 437707.

Ysgol Iolo choir claims Urdd prize

YSGOL Iolo Morganwg is celebrating yet another first at this year's national Urdd Eisteddfod held at Llanerchaeron near Aberaeron.

For the second year running, the school's two voice choir – led by Iolo's singing supremo, Mrs Eleri M Roberts, won first prize.

Another member of Ysgol Iolo's staff, Mrs Debbie Lewis, was the able accompanist.

In awarding them first prize, the judges commented on the choir's remarkable discipline and musicality.

It is made up of children aged from 7-11, with a number of the pupils winning first prize on the Urdd stage for a remarkable fourth successive year.

Commenting on the win, Mrs Roberts said she felt delighted:

"It's down to commitment of the children – as well as the entire school community."

School head, Dylan Wyn Evans, said the achievement shows that Ysgol Iolo is going from strength-to-strength: "We're growing in numbers every year – and achieving even more.

LIFELONG LESSONS

"Pupils not only gain excellent academic results, but are encouraged to partake in a wealth of extra curricular clubs offered at the school.

"In all, this helps develop children as lifelong, rounded learners," he commented.

Chair of governors Aled Huw said this win resonated with the first class education provided at Ysgol Iolo. Learning how to perform on a national stage at such a tender age was an invaluable lesson in life.

Two pupils – Nel Lewis (year-3) and Nia Brown (year-6) reached the final stages of the individual singing competitions.

Nia Roberts (year-2) and Lois Aled (year-6) won medals in the arts and crafts competition

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'New MP needs to be based in Vale'

I NOTE that new Vale MP Alun Cairns has made his maiden speech in the House of Commons.

In his short speech, Mr Cairns was reasonably generous to retiring MP John Smith, commenting on his hard work to bring the Defence Technical Academy to the Vale of Glamorgan and his campaign to ensure that DVT received proper attention. He also praised Sir Raymond Gower.

Mr Cairns acknowledged that there are residents in the Vale who suffer from deprivation. He stated he would fight for equality of opportunity. Perhaps then he should review his previous glorification of Mrs Thatcher and take a tip from Sir Raymond Gower and John Smith.

The parliamentary website currently indicates that Mr Cairns' office is based in Porthcawl. All previous Vale and Barry MPs from the 1950s onward have had a permanent base in Barry, the population centre of the Vale.

This in fact, together with his failure to properly resign from the Welsh Assembly, shows the shallowness of his promises.

If he really wishes to tackle deprivation in the Vale he needs to base his office and staff in Barry, the area of most need.

Michael Sharp
Barry

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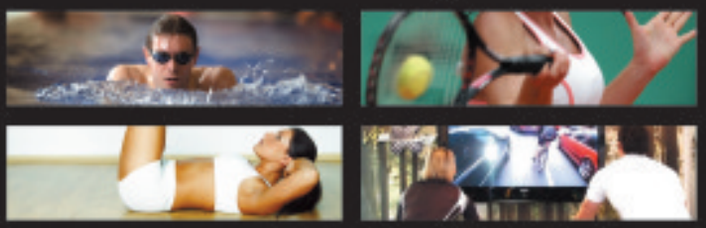

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THE GLAMORGAN GEM WORLD CUP ROUND-UP

The festival of football has begun – and so have the mistakes, cards and goals!

THE World Cup finally got underway last Friday afternoon, and all the talk and conjecture about who should be in the squads of each of the 32 competing countries came to an end.

Still to be answered, though, are important questions, like who should be in goal for England. We now know how that question was answered, and what the result of that selection was; but we shall return to that one later.

The opening ceremony was, in fairness, a great deal better than many an opening ceremony witnessed in the past at other major sporting events.

I don't think anyone cheated in the singing of a song, or special computer-generated effects used to fool the watching millions. It was a good celebration, not only of South African culture, but that of the continent as a whole, and I at least understood the message being portrayed.

The first match saw hosts South Africa play Mexico, and despite being without the ball for long periods, the home team produced a cracking goal from Tshabalala.

Unfortunately for the hosts, they couldn't hold onto that lead and Mexico grabbed a deserved equaliser later in the second half.

Honours even then, and quite a good start to the tournament.

Now the general rule for teams in their opening fixture is don't lose. Australia obviously had this in mind when they turned up to play Germany without a recognised striker in the starting 11.

They were duly hammered 4-0, and you have to wonder, what happened to the famous fighting spirit we expect from all Aussie teams.

Germany were allowed to play with total freedom and looked good, though I wouldn't get too excited about them just yet – tougher games are to come.

The French who, if rumours are to be believed, are busy fighting with each other and the manager, looked ragged.

The 0–0 draw with Uruguay was only marked out by the first sending off of a player in the tournament.

Of the other big teams, Argentina beat Nigeria 1–0 and looked strong, only an outstanding display of goalkeeping by Vincent Enyeama preventing Argentina from winning by four or five goals .

Defending champions Italy struggled to a 1–1 draw with Paraguay, as the Italians made their usual slow start to a tournament. In the past, they have always got better and better as things progress, but this time, however, I suspect they may just run out of steam later on.

Holland ran out fairly comfortable winners against Denmark 2–0, without showing too much of the sexy football associated with them recently.

The Asian contingent have also started well, with South Korea running all over a poor Greek team to win 2–0,

by TONY BENNETT

and Japan beating Cameroon 1–0.

Of the others, Ghana looked good in beating Serbia 1–0, and the Algeria – Slovenia match was dire.

The only goal in that one came from a gift from the Algerian keeper, who made a complete hash of a soft shot from just outside the penalty area.

That brings us neatly onto England, and another goalkeeper who gifted the opposition a goal. I did say last week, when looking for an upset, England against the USA might be one to watch, and it was...

The Americans fought hard and despite Gerrard's early goal, they were never out of the match. 1–1 was a fair reflection of the game, America having slightly the better of the chances, while England had the better of the possession.

But all eyes were on Robert Green and his horrendous blunder in letting the ball slip off his hand into the net.

There can be no excuses, and this must mean a change of keeper for the next match, but which one?

In summary, the opening few games have been a bit tight and a bit tense.

The quality of the shooting and dead ball kicks has been really poor, most shots seeming to be heading towards row Z from the moment the ball leaves the player's foot.

The quality of the officials has been surprisingly good so far, with the exception of the Mexican Marco Rodriguez, an official who brandishes red cards like confetti, and I have seen him in action before.

Four years ago in Munich, during a meaningless match between Serbia and the Ivory Coast, he managed to send two players off and gave the Ivory Coast a very dubious penalty.

Quite what Tim Cahill of Australia did to deserve his red card is beyond me.

This weekend's entertainment starts on Friday lunchtime as Germany play Serbia, and this could be good. We should get a better idea of just how good this German team really is.

On Friday night, England play Algeria, and while I wouldn't expect a shock, just who will be in goal for England?

Saturday sees nothing outstanding, though Holland against Japan in the early kick-off may be of interest to those, and there are quite a few I know, who have deposited some cash in the bookies on Holland to win the whole thing.

The best prospect must be the Sunday night match between Brazil and the Ivory Coast.

Will Drogba be fit enough to play, and can a team from Africa stand up and beat the world's most successful football nation? I doubt it.

Happy viewing for the week ahead – once everyone has played their first match, things should open up a little and then we will start getting down to the real action and, I suspect, a few more surprises and mistakes!

St Helen's pupils are going World Cup crazy!

Picture by JOHN O'BEIRNE

RIGHT: Pupils show off their silky skills to celebrate the start of the World Cup.

PUPILS at St Helen's Junior School in Barry joined together to celebrate the start of the World Cup.

They wore sports kit to school for the day, played mini five-a-side tournaments and learnt all sorts of facts about football and the World Cup host country, South Africa.

Year-5 pupils (pictured above) made and decorated their own 'Vuvuzelas' and will continue to study the topic as part of their curriculum.

A fun day was had by all and even the teachers learnt some new facts!

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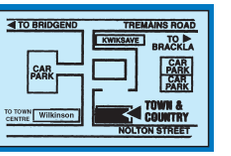

Search starts for volunteers who can change community

SOUTH Wales Police Authority is today launching a search for the 2010 Community Safety Volunteer of the Year.

The awards, which are in their sixth year, are for anyone who volunteers to keep the local community safe – for example, youth club leaders or neighbourhood watch volunteers.

This year there are four categories: Community Safety Volunteer of the Year; Young Community Safety Volunteer of the Year (must be under-21); Community Safety Volunteer Team of the Year; Community Safety Initiative.

Last year's overall winner was Croeserw Youth Action Group, from Port Talbot, for their work in the community.

The group of four young people, aged between 14 and 16, have worked to make their area a better place to live by setting up an action group with the Communities First Team, to tackle littering and other issues.

Chair of the Police Authority, Councillor Russell Roberts, said: "The awards are an excellent way to reward the hard working people in our communities who assist the force and the authority in performing well.

"Without their determination, our streets would not be as safe as they are."

Nominations can be made via the Police Authority website at www.southwalespoliceauthority.org.uk, or by calling the office directly on 01656 869366.

The winners will be announced at a special ceremony in September.

FAMILY FUN DAY

THERE will be a family fun day on Saturday, June 19, from 12pm-6pm at Springbank Nursing Home, College Road, Barry.

Marquee champagne reception, outside bar, hog roast with buffet, bouncy castle, disco, stalls selling books, cakes, drinks.

Amelia Trust, which Springbank supports as its named charity, will bring a variety of petting animals.

Organised as a fundraiser to support the residents' fund and Amelia Trust, music will be provided by RAF St Athan Voluntary Band.

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NEWS FROM THE PENARTH AND DISTRICT RAMBLERS

ADMIRING THE HISTORY AND BEAUTY OF THE LLYNFI VALLEY

DISAPPOINTINGLY, only three walkers turned out recently to join Janet and John for a pleasant walk just the other side of the Llynfi Valley.

On a humid, overcast but dry morning, the group left a housing estate on the edge of Maesteg to follow a stony bridleway downhill through a wood, before joining Llan Road and walking to Llangynwyd village which is dominated by the church.

The church, dedicated to St Cynwyd, was founded in the 6th century but was rebuilt in the 13th century and has since been restored several times. The low square tower was completely restored in 1893.

There is a lovely old Welsh legend, the Maid of Cefn Ydfa, that involves a local thatcher and poet, Wil Hopcyn, who fell in love with a local girl, Ann Thomas, whose mother Catherine did not believe that Wil was good enough to court her daughter.

So she arranged for Ann to marry a gentleman called Anthony Maddox, which Ann did, but eventually she died of what some people believed was a broken heart.

Mynydd Margam replica of Bodvoc Stone.

Both Ann and Wil are buried in the churchyard under the trees, and across the road is a thatched inn called Yr Hen Dy (the Old House) and the cross between the church and the inn is a memorial to Wil.

The inn is believed to be the oldest in south Wales and the village still celebrates the coming of the New Year with the Mari Lwyd, which has changed over the years but involves a horse's skull draped in a white sheet with flowers being paraded through the village.

Following the road uphill, a stop was made to discard clothing as the sun shone and it became very humid, and as the rough farm tracks led them gently uphill they paused for coffee, just as the sky clouded over and a few drops of rain fell.

Refreshed, they continued uphill passing the site of Y Bwlwarcan, a hill-slope fort that possibly dates back to the Iron Age and is situated on an east facing part of Mynydd Margam.

The fort covers a huge area of land and the small central part, enclosed by a bank and ditch some two-metres deep, is the area which was inhabited and this was protected by more outer circles.

Joining the Coed Morgannwg Way, which runs for 36 miles, swathes of the conifer plantations have been harvested, resulting in huge piles of logs along the track. They watched a fledgling wagtail that hadn't quite got the hang of flying do a crash landing on a log before moving on to view a copy of the Bodvic Stone.

The original is housed in the Margam Stones Museum and was dedicated to Bodvoc, the son of Cattegern.

Lunch was enjoyed a little further along before the group moved on through forestry paths and turning downhill, they were greeted by green verges that were bedecked with sweet-smelling bluebells and overhung with hawthorn trees covered with May blossom beside Cwm Sychbant.

Sometimes, fallow deer roam here but not today, so following the road and then taking a diverted path, where the resident stallion had to be bribed with an apple to let them through, they crossed a stile through a bluebell wood and nature reserve to eventually retrace their steps back to their cars.

On June 19, meet at 9am at the Barry Waterfront for a 9-10 mile moderate walk at Cefn Coed y Cymmer and Llwyn Onn; contact Barbara on 01446 734686.

On June 24, the Thursday evening walk will leave Dinas Powys Athletic Club (at the rear of the common) for a 4-mile easy/mod tramp at Park Wood and Cwm George; contact Joy on 01446 737131.

Wear suitable clothing, preferably boots and carry waterproofs, food and drinks. Some degree of fitness is required and if you are in any doubt, then please contact the walk leader for advice.

For other groups' walk log onto www.ramblers.org.uk Rucksack badges, programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2021 9102.

JOY STRANGWARD

Veteran GEM contributor marks his landmark celebration...

Alfred Mills at 99

ABOVE:
Alf and his late wife, Edith.

AMAZINGLY, long-standing GEM contributor Alfred Mills will be celebrating his 99th birthday on June 26. Here, this remarkable local historian, who lives in Barry, reflects on this landmark occasion and dips into his personal memoir of changing times...

AS I approach my 99th birthday (by the Grace of God), I look back on very different times and changes that have taken place.

As children of working-class parents, the years of our youth were austere and birthdays were not celebrated as they are today.

A special tea-party was the norm and a cake (home-made) always graced the table with jellies etc, the highlight being the blowing out of the candles and singing 'Happy B irthday'.

Very little changed over the years and when our three children arrived, it was much the same, the last war and its after-effects making life difficult.

As conditions improved, celebrations became more festive and the tables filled with more delights and friends arrived and the party spirit took off.

Since our children grew up, the norm has been to party at an hotel, café or other eating place.

Whether this coming birthday will be the last I celebrate, is difficult to determine, but as my dear mother used to say, "I live in hope if I die in despair".

ABOVE:
The picture taken on August 16, 1929 – when Alf was 18.

ABOVE:
Blowing out the candles on Alf's 80th birthday.

CANCER SPECIALIST'S MARATHON RIDE FOR VELINDRE HOSPITAL

A LOCAL consultant cancer specialist should be more than halfway on a marathon charity ride from Land's End to John O'Groats by the time GEM readers pick up this newspaper.

Dr Tom Crosby, Velindre Cancer Centre's clinical director, is spearheading a new fundraising appeal by cycling the length of Britain.

The appeal will focus on raising cash for less common and hard-to-treat cancers.

The Velindre Cancer Centre 'Attac' (Action to Target Treatment Against Cancer) appeal aims to help people diagnosed with upper GI cancers – stomach, pancreatic, oesophageal and cancer of the gullet.

About 1,400 people in Wales are diagnosed with such cancers every year, but prognosis can be poor because there are not diagnosed in time.

Dr Crosby, who is also a consultant clinical oncologist specialising in the field, said: "The goal for all cancer patients is for them to have personalised medicine that targets the cancer itself.

"In the case of chemotherapy, this is about using novel agents to target the cause of the cancer, rather than the relatively crude chemotherapy treatments we use now."

He continued: "This Attac appeal for upper GI cancer is to develop targeted chemotherapy and radiotherapy treatments using modern technology and computer systems, so we are able to treat the tumour and spare a patient as many of the side-effects as possible."

This is an area that Dr Crosby is researching at the moment.

Another aim of the Attac appeal will be to give Velindre patients with GI cancers a specialist nurse.

Dr Crosby said: "We want to fill in the gaps which currently exist. It's all about improving the quality of the service and making that quality equitable across the region."

He added: "Unfortunately patients often present with advanced disease where we know that prognosis can be limited.

"We want to be able to diagnose patients earlier and treat them with more targeted treatments.

"But while patients are presenting with advanced forms of the disease, they also need the specialist care to help them through the challenging treatments."

Dr Crosby has the support of Wales rugby star Jonathan Davies, whose first wife Karen died from cancer at the age of 34.

Dr Crosby will be accompanied on his charity ride by Meurig Evans, the husband of one of Velindre's oncologists and senior hospital specialist Ray Calder.

They will be supported by Dr Crosby's mother Gwenda (78) and her friend Joan Rees.

Dr Crosby said. "I'm a reasonably keen cyclist but I've never done anything like this before – and I've never cycled more than 100 miles. But we'll be doing 100 miles a day over the nine days."

The ride started on June 12, and the trio are due to reach John O'Groats on Sunday, June 19.

To support the Attac appeal, telephone Velindre fundraising on 029 2031 6211 or visit the websitewww.justgiving.com/Tom-Crosby

ABOVE: Dr Tom Crosby has support from a number of Welsh rugby personalities, including Martyn Williams.

What has happened to Barry's small pool?

WHAT is going on at Barry Leisure Centre? The small swimming pool at Barry Leisure centre has been closed since around November last year, after an apparent leak which drained the pool overnight.

On a recent visit to the pool, I noted that the small pool is still out of action. What is the council doing to remedy this problem?

From the outside it appears little or no action is taking place to reopen this valuable facility, forcing parents to take babies and toddlers out of the town to other facilities.

Ray Cudlip, Barry

GEM NOTE:
The GEM approached the Vale Council for a comment and a spokeswoman said: "Following extensive repair works, the small pool at Barry Leisure Centre is set to reopen this week."

Vale beaches' seaside award

THREE beaches in the Vale have picked up a coveted seaside award after meeting strict land and water-based quality criteria.

Whitmore Bay, which also recently picked up an international Blue Flag award, Jackson's Bay and Southerndown have all scooped a distinctive yellow and blue seaside flag. The awards are managed in Wales by Keep Wales Tidy.

The Vale's three beaches are classified as 'resort' beaches and will have had to meet 30 criteria including beach cleanliness, provision of information, dog ban areas, lifesaving equipment and strict environmental management.

They will also have met the European Union standard of bathing water quality.

All beaches are regularly monitored by a team of experienced instructors and should any not meet the standards during the unannounced visit the local authority will be instructed to take down the flag until the problem is resolved.

Coun Geoff Cox, cabinet member for visible and building services, said: "This is more wonderful news for the Vale's beaches. Following the recent success of Whitmore Bay and Penarth Marina in the international Blue Flag awards, the Seaside Award is a further indicator of the excellent quality facilities at more of our locations.

"My thanks go to all our staff for their hard work in maintaining these high quality conditions for our residents and visitors alike."

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COWBRIDGE Summer Update...

COWBRIDGE HAS PERFECT BLEND OF OLD AND NEW TO ENTICE THE VISITORS!

Report by JAYNE ISAAC

COWBRIDGE is to market itself as an ideal town for a short break – as part of a new strategy devised by the Chamber of Trade.

The chamber has employed a public relations company to draw up a marketing strategy aimed at enticing 'short break' visitors to stay locally.

The strategy will also look at developing new events to act as a draw.

Cowbridge is already a popular shopping destination and is gaining an increasing reputation for those interested in antiques. The town now boasts a thriving antiques market, located in the former garden centre, plus a number of separate antiques shops.

Between them, they cater for people looking for a variety of items – from full blown classic Victorian and Georgian furniture and clocks, to those wanting bric-a-brac from more recent times.

The market consists of a number of individual shops where traders specialise in different periods.

They offer a vast choice, from children's classic books, vintage material and embroidered cloths, retro-ornaments from every era up to the 1960s, jewellery, distressed and painted furniture, vintage bags and accessories, dishes and Welsh blankets – to name but a few.

It's a fantastic place to browse and prices vary considerably from those that suit the average pocket, to those which require much deeper ones.

The antiques shops increase the choice available and there is also a monthly antiques fair in the town hall.

Cowbridge is keen to promote niche markets with special events as a means of drawing people in.

Fashion Week has raised its profile, with discerning women keen to be smart and stylish.

The town has a great choice of clothes shops covering all age groups – and with a wide price spectrum.

They are complemented by shops selling shoes and bags and other accessories.

The Food and Drink festival has also helped promote Cowbridge for its choice of great restaurants, cafes and pubs which offer food.

There are also, of course, food shops which sell items such as locally-reared meat, fruit, vegetables and plants, bread and bakery, and delicatessen items.

The latest venture by the forward-looking chamber has seen it take advantage of a chance to secure funding from Creative Rural Communities to promote Cowbridge as a destination for visitors from further afield who would wish to stay for a day or two – or three.

The aim is to cash in on the lucrative short-stay holiday market which could benefit the whole of the Vale.

The chamber also wants to organise additional events which would draw in both day visitors and people staying longer.

Alun John, chairman of the chamber, said that Cowbridge had not been immune to the effects of the recession which had hit small towns across the UK.

He said: "In addition, the recent completion of the St David's 2 shopping centre in Cardiff and the arrival of John Lewis has heightened the need for Cowbridge to promote itself as a quality shopping destination.

"The town and the surrounding countryside have many attractions, which is why we have brought a PR agency on board to help us raise the profile of the area to both day and short break visitors."

The project has received funding through the Rural Development Plan for Wales, which is administered by the Welsh Assembly Government and the European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development.

The scheme is also supported by Creative Rural Communities, which is the Vale Council's regeneration and development arm.

The chamber will be exploring new ideas over coming weeks before finalising the new marketing strategy.

Leisure centre wins praise for access

COWBRIDGE Leisure Centre has been hailed as one of the "most disability-friendly centres in Wales" – after improvement works that include a state-of-the-art 'Changing Place' for disabled customers.

Coun Janice Charles, Cowbridge ward member Coun Hunter Jarvie, Coun Anthony Ernest, Cowbridge ward member Coun Geoff Cox, and Simon Jones, the Cowbridge leisure centre manager, are pictured (above) in the state-of-the-art 'Changing Place'.

One of only six such facilities in the country, the 'Changing Place' gives disabled people plenty of space to change in comfort, with help from a carer, and the room is accessible to all, with a fully adjustable changing bed and hoist.

A further hoist has also been installed in the health suite to allow access to the spa, while a new toilet has also been put in place.

However, it isn't just inside the centre that has been improved for disabled customers, as the Vale Council's cabinet member for leisure and tourism Coun Anthony Ernest explained.

"The area around the centre has been made wheelchair-friendly, from the new paths alongside the football field to the extra disabled parking spaces and ramp outside the main entrance," he said.

Coun Janice Charles, cabinet member for human resources and equalities, added: "I hope that this fantastic new Changing Place will allow many more disabled local people to experience the pleasures and benefits of exercise.

"As a council, we are committed to providing equal opportunities for local residents and this is a great example of equalities in action. I am delighted that the council is leading the way with equalities."

The state-of-the-art new facilities at Cowbridge Leisure Centre were created by the Vale Council's access officer Paul Scourfield.

The council has also installed a 'Changing Place' at Penarth Leisure Centre.

In addition to being available to customers at the leisure centres, these can also be accessed by disabled members of the public who need them.

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COWBRIDGE Summer Update...

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The business is thriving, mainly due to word of mouth referrals, and Richard is optimistic that this will continue, given the recent confidence in the economy.

*Stay up-to-date with all the goings-on in Cowbridge, and the rest of the Vale, by reading The GEM every week - **cowbridge-today.co.uk***

Car boot sale

Transition Cowbridge will be supporting Cowbridge Comprehensive PTA car boot on Sunday, June 20.

They are making an appeal for all items that would otherwise be going into landfill and would be suitable for a car boot sale.

The money raised will go to the PTA appeal and local sustainability projects.

Please contact Rob or Dinky on 01446 775686 or info@transitioncowbridge.org.

Holy Cross gets a new look service

FOLLOWING a well-attended, exciting, special family service on Pentecost Sunday, the first new-look family service will be held on Sunday, June 20, at 10.45am, and on every third Sunday of the month thereafter.

A church spokeswoman said: "The aim of the service is to provide a happy, enjoyable service for the whole family, which will include music, drama and worship, followed by refreshments – providing a wonderful opportunity to mix and mingle and grow in fellowship as a community.

"We hope you will join us at these services and help us make them an important, regular 'must-have' part of our community life in Cowbridge."

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New club is proving popular with knitters of all abilities

KNITTING specialist shop La Mercerie has been well received since it opened earlier this year – that's because we cater for all levels of knitters – from those that haven't picked up a pair of needles in years, to those who create their own designs.

You'll find a variety of yarns that extends from silk and cashmere to a colourful budget range; and as we listen to our customers, we now stock an increased range of haberdashery items.

Come along and discover the wonderful colours and textures of Noro, Debbie Bliss, Artesano, Manos, Sirdar and Bergere de France.

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Y BONT FAEN TODDLERS TAKE A WALK TO AID BARNARDO'S

Class teacher Nicola Jones leads the way at the start.

NURSERY pupils at Y Bont Faen Primary School went for a long walk earlier this week – to raise funds for the children's charity, Barnardo's.

The pupils took part in the 'big toddle', an annual fundraising event run by the charity, and members of the Cowbridge branch of Barnardo's were on hand to supply the little ones with drinks when they finished the walk.

This year, the walk had a pirate theme, and it was the first of two to take place on the da – as the nursery teacher at the school, Nicola Jones, explained:

"This morning, the older nursery group is doing the walk. The younger members of the nursery section are doing their own walk this afternoon."

She added: "We have had a lot of help today from Mr Griffiths, the headteacher, and from classroom assistants Mrs Watt, Mrs Hollings and Mrs Thomas."

Also dressed up in the pirate gear were the ladies from the Cowbridge Barnardo's group: Mary Bird, Janet Lewis, Sheila Davies, Tina Edmunds, Jo Knapp and Morfydd Meredith.

ABOVE: Crossing the finish line!

Mary Bird added: "Apart from the sponsorship money raised, events such as this help to keep Barnardo's in the public eye.

"The charity does a lot of things that the public is probably not aware of, including running 'Flying Start' groups in deprived areas, which give pre-school children opportunities to play and learn – which is really important for their development."

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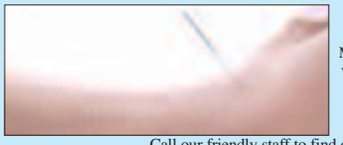

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COWBRIDGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
Cowbridge Rugby Club are looking to recruit new players for the forthcoming season.
The club currently runs two senior sides, together with youth and ladies teams.
We encourage players of all standards and are keen to welcome every potential player, both new and old.
We meet at the club house on Thursday evenings from 7pm or for more information please call Dai Breed on 07896 997016

Cowbridge RFC welcomes *you!*

COWBRIDGE RFC is already looking ahead to next year; while the official 'pre-season' training starts in earnest next month, throughout June a more light-hearted version is taking place on Thursday evenings from 7pm.

Combining with the club's youth team, who enjoyed another successful season last year, the players are looking to have a bit of fun during the summer, while keeping up fitness levels.

So, to any players out there, from youth to vets, new and old – you are welcome to join us at the rugby club on Thursday evenings!

For more information, please contact Dai Breed on 07896 997016.

Looking to advertise in over 43,000 newspapers and online? Contact us on 01446 774484 or email: *gemsales@internet-today.co.uk*

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Out and About with The GEM

Ben Stiller shows off his serious side in Baumbach's *Greenberg*

SCREEN TALK

by GARETH JAMIESON

TO many, Ben Stiller is known as the funny guy who, having lit up *There's Something About Mary*, proceeded to marry big laughs with box office success in the likes of *Meet The Parents*, *Dodgeball* and *Starsky and Hutch*.

However, before Stiller's breakthrough with … *Mary*, he had built up an impressive resume of straight roles that highlighted his ability as an actor, most notably in *Zero Effect* and *Permanent Midnight*.

Having shown his comedy chops for the past 10 years, Stiller takes on something a touch more dramatic with Noah Baumbach's latest effort, *Greenberg*.

Stiller plays Roger Greenberg, a socially awkward 40-year-old who has recently left a mental hospital.

Moving into his brother's home while he and his family are away, Greenberg gets close to the family's assistant Florence (Greta Gerwig), and the pair's relationship sees Roger reassessing his life, trying to mend broken bridges such as those with his best friend Ivan (Rhys Ifans); however, Greenberg's personality seems to be the stumbling block for achieving happiness as he finds himself losing a winning battle…

Noah Baumbach's previous works have mined gold from the world of middle-class, dysfunctional families and the lives that they lead. Both his directorial efforts thus far (which he also, like *Greenberg*, wrote) *The Squid and The Whale* and *Margot At The Wedding*, have taken a deep look at the neuroses of these characters, what makes them tick and why they are so dysfunctional without being overly judgmental.

It is a well that he strikes a third time here, and while perhaps not with the same unnerving accuracy that those earlier films achieved, still makes for a pleasing, if slightly low-key, viewing experience.

Those familiar with the work of Wes Anderson will see a familiarity in Baumbach's work, understandable since the pair co-wrote both *The Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou* and Anderson's take on *Fantastic Mr Fox* – both seem to take great delight in highlighting the familial breakdowns that can occur and the relationships they affect.

While that was true of Baumbach's first two efforts, *Greenberg* puts all of the weight onto the titular character, a bundle of mixed up sentiments and beliefs, ranting with anger one minute (most memorably upon receiving a birthday cake in a restaurant) and wondering why his former life has given way to the one he is living now.

Baumbach's deftness is shown wonderfully through the writing of the film, its wry comedy being generated by the characters and the situations they are in rather than any convoluted set-ups or plot points.

Keeping things almost fly-on-the-wall (much like his previous work), the film feels steeped in reality and this allows the comedy, and the drama, to unfold naturally without being forced.

His direction is similarly unobtrusive, catching the glow of Los Angeles without the glossy veneer and keeping things as sparse as can be.

The opening shot in particular sets out his stall – the camera's main focus is on the actors and the characters; the visual element is a by-product of that.

He is aided by wonderful and engaging turns from a cast varying in terms of exposure: Ben Stiller shows he is more than just a comedy actor with a turn that is both tragic and comedic, yet is also unafraid to buck your expectations.

It would have been easy to create a character whose attempts to work through his issues are fraught yet come with good intentions, but Greenberg isn't one of those characters.

Instead, you have to try and like him despite his actions, the character annoying and, at times, horrible, yet Stiller's turn offers a touch of light at the end of the dark tunnel, making him a protagonist hard to root for, but not wholly unlikeable.

The counterpoint to Greenberg's bitterness and resentment is Greta Gerwig's Florence, and for the little-known actress it is a performance that is excellent.

Perhaps as troubled as Greenberg, she is open and welcoming to his closed-up and shut off personality. On the surface opposites, they are more linked than they realise, and Baumbach doesn't force the relationship between the two, the pair discovering each other almost with reluctance.

Gerwig's performance is beautifully judged, capturing the fragility of the character while making her thoroughly appealing, it is a turn that marks Gerwig out as one to watch.

Similarly, it also nice to see Rhys Ifans back in front of the camera, and much like Stiller and Gerwig, he offers up a restrained and subtle performance, another character with issues and troubles, but one the Welshman essays with no little amount of skill.

Certainly, while Baumbach treads a world he is more than familiar with, the film doesn't quite have the acerbic bite of his previous works, lacking the cohesion and shape that would let it really excel.

However, come a climax that eschews redemption for hope, you will feel satisfied by *Greenberg*, a film whose focus on characters and situation works incredibly well, if without grand dramatics.

VERDICT – Familiar ground, but one that is still well worth mining, Noah Baumbach is on good form for *Greenberg*.

Sharply written and directed, its slightly meandering style retains charm while the performances from Ben Stiller, Greta Gerwig and Rhys Ifans are perfectly pitched; a low-key delight, and one that is well worth seeking out. *Enjoyable*.

Are you sitting comfortably..?

STORYTELLER Cath Little will be working with children aged three – seven, to create a poem about their local library in Bridgend on June 19 between 2.15pm-3.15pm.

A BCBC spokeswoman said: "Inspired by the recent 'Express Yourself' libraries challenge, where more than 1,600 people of all ages took the opportunity to write a poem, create a work of art or perform a play that would inspire people to visit their local library, Cath Little will create a rich sense of magical storytelling to make a fun filled, creative writing session especially for children."

Admission is free. For further details, call Bridgend Library on (01656) 764830, email: bridgendlib@bridgend.gov.uk or visit www.bridgend.gov.uk.

All children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

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Car Boot Sale
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Every Sunday 2pm-5pm at The Ocean Lounge, Porthkerry Leisure Park, Rhoose
Telephone: 01446 710362

Ty Hafan benefits from 'dress up or down' day

STAFF at training and employment specialists, A4e Wales, raised almost £200 by hosting a Ty Hafan children's hospice 'Dress up or down for £1' day.

The Barry-based team chose to dress in bad-taste outfits, putting together the most mis-matched combinations they could find in their wardrobes!

Local businesses and customers in the Buccaneer pub dipped into their pockets for the Sully-based charity.

ABOVE:
The A4e fundraising team show off their fashion sense.

Police officers take on charity peaks challenge

VALE police officers and staff spent their bank holiday weekend taking on the 3 Peaks challenge in Wales, England and Scotland to raise funds for Ty Hafan children's hospice and Cancer Research Wales.

A team of 16 men and women – four drivers and a dozen climbers - set off from south Wales in the early hours, shortly after some officers had finished their shifts to travel north to Snowdon, where they wasted no time in setting off on the first leg of their marathon effort.

After a swift descent, they piled into minibuses for another four-hour drive to the foot of the 2,890 feet Scafell Pike, in the Lake District.

Then followed a six-hour drive through the night to Fort William in the Scottish Highlands and scaled Ben Nevis.

By the time the team had returned to the foot of the Ben, they had beaten the clock with half an hour to spare.

Inspector Chris Patterson said:"We were all delighted to have succeeded in the challenge we set ourselves. We certainly didn't make it easy for ourselves by having to start from Barry police station on Friday morning.

As well as the physical effort of completing all three climbs within 24 hours, we had to try and get what sleep we could while travelling between peaks.

"Our goal was to raise more than £2,000 and once we have collected all our pledges, I am confident that we will have far exceeded this amount."

Local college wins a national award

BARRY College has won a national award for its innovative approach to learning.

The college claimed the prized innovation in leadership and management of vocational education award at the Colegau Cymru Annual Awards 2010.

The award reflects 50 years of vocational training across a broad range of areas at a local regional level, to meet the needs of its students and business and industry across Wales.

Barry College principal Paul Halstead, said: "I was delighted to accept the award on behalf of the dedicated and hard-working staff at Barry College.

"We have made a significant investment in our staff in order to become an institution which provides innovative solutions to leadership and management in order to better serve our learners, the employers we work with and the wider community."

'Fungus killing off larch trees'

– COMMISSI0N WARNS

FORESTRY Commission Wales experts are working to contain an outbreak of Phytophthora ramorum (P. ramorum) infection in Japanese larch trees in the Garw Valley and Vale of Glamorgan.

"P. ramorum is a fungus-like pathogen that kills many of the trees that it infects. It was found on Japanese larch trees in south west England last year, and the outbreak in woodlands in the Garw Valley, and the Vale and Afan Valley is the first time it has been encountered on larch elsewhere in Great Britain," Richard Siddons, head of grants and regulations for Forestry Commission Wales, said; "Like any threat to our trees, woods and forests, finding Phytophthora ramorum on Japanese larch in south Wales is a worrying development.

"So far in Wales, it has only been found in woodland managed by Forestry Commission Wales on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government.

"However, the situation is changing rapidly as we undertake more surveys, and it is likely that the infection has spread more widely," he warned.

Ty Hafan lottery draw winners

THE following are winning numbers in the Ty Hafan Crackerjackpot lottery draw number 622.

- **£2000:** 804027.
- **The rollover, which now stands at £4,000:** 358487.
- **£10:** 571336; 299997; 680833; 772731; 683402; 476641; 153103; 574340; 225373; 169359; 531022; 663739; 272056; 336554; 688184; 367652; 311850; 952693; 282514; 420971.
- **£5:** 375122; 792660; 449503; 166884; 278755; 532646; 532961; 290925; 422854; 621947; 721556; 138538; 720754; 857134; 324791; 824936; 833835; 750681; 308284; 342707; 327294; 266938; 209787; 479721; 776965; 422674; 945814; 697970; 583148; 246071; 537021; 823323; 490094; 585744; 314967; 385147; 376921; 298098; 593994; 526523; 783692; 569282; 337802; 775797; 813268; 881236; 212815; 297590; 525732; 340343; 983896; 443736; 709958; 488552; 639529; 632646; 365498; 145693; 787086; 248552.

The GEM cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions contained in the above.

For lottery information please call telephone 02920 672062.

Out and About with The GEM

Polo comes to Cardiff Castle

THE first-ever polo event to be held inside the walls of Cardiff Castle will take place this summer to raise money for Welsh charity The Noah's Ark appeal and GEM readers can win one of five family tickets (two adults and two children) for the event!

'Polo in the Castle' will be held in Cardiff Castle on Sunday, June 27.

It is designed to give residents unprecedented access to an international sport that dates back more than 1,400 years.

The event has attracted support from a number of high-profile Welsh celebrities, including Welsh star and patron of the Noah's Ark Appeal, Charlotte Church.

She said: "I am particularly looking forward to the inaugural 'Polo in the Castle'.

"It is an event that I fully support and I hope to see you all there."

With 100 per cent of the profits made on ticket sales going to the Noah's Ark Appeal, 'Polo in the Castle' is a key event in the charity's 10th anniversary celebrations.

It aims to raise a further £7 million to equip and complete the second phase of the hospital.

Established in 2000, The Noah's Ark Appeal was set up to help support the Children's Hospital for Wales.

The Noah's Ark appeal is the only charity exclusively raising money for the hospital and relies on the support and generosity of individuals, companies, and charitable trusts, across Wales.

Lyn Jones, chairman of the appeal said: "The day is set to be a great success and we are confident that this will become an annual event for a cause close to all our hearts.

"The event will help to raise the profile of the charity and the Children's Hospital for Wales."

For more information, visit: www.polointhecastle.com.

To be in with a chance of winning one of the five pairs of family tickets, simply call The GEM on 01446 774484, quoting Noah's Ark competition, with the correct answer to the following question:

• Which celebrity is a patron of The Noah's Ark Appeal?

The first five callers will each win a family ticket, so you have to be quick!

Normal competition rules apply.

Teddy Bears' pub picnic

THE Cwmtalwg Woodlands Association is holding a Teddy Bears' picnic this Saturday (June 19) at 2.30pm, in the wood opposite the Millwood pub (formerly the Cwmtalwg) Severn Avenue, Barry.

If it rains on June 19, the picnic will be held on June 26 at 2.30pm.

'JOIN THE DOLPHIN WATCH THIS SUMMER'

LOCAL residents are being urged to keep a special look out for dolphins and porpoises – as part of a national survey.

Welsh wildlife TV presenter Iolo Williams has teamed up with the marine research charity Sea Watch to call for Welsh wildlife lovers to take part in this year's 'National Whale and Dolphin Watch' – and also its 'photo a fin' campaign.

A spokeswoman for Sea Watch told The GEM that they were equally keen to receive reports of sightings in the Bristol Channel.

Sea Watch is appealing for people to send in pictures of the fins and markings of whales, dolphins and porpoises that they see either from land or from sea – so that they can be matched against pictures of known individuals.

National Whale and Dolphin Watch takes place around the coast of the UK August 7 –15 and helps build up a snapshot of marine mammals in UK coastal waters.

Members of the public can send in their own sightings or join public watches.

To find out more about how to take part go to www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk and follow the links from the home page.

Wick talk

THERE will be an open evening at Wick Chapel on Tuesday, June 29, at 6.30pm to discuss religious diversity and the real historical life of Jesus.

"GEM readers are invited to view the historic chapel at Wick, listen to an illustrated talk and enjoy a discussion over refreshments.

"You will not be expected to take part in any religious activity," a spokeswoman said.

www.wickchapel.org.uk

FATHER'S DAY

FRIENDS of Merthyr Dyfan Cemetery, Barry, will open the cemetery chapel for Father's Day for all to remember lost loved ones, from 10am-3pm.

All money raised is spent on small good works at the cemetery, to enhance the 55-acre site, which is owned and run by Barry Town Council.

Roadworks round-up

PLASSEY Street, junctions with Glebe Street, Ludlow Lane, Ludlow Street, Arcott Street and Windsor Road, Penarth – carriageway width restrictions.

Pontypridd Street, junction with Mount Pleasant, Barry – footway restriction in place.

Gladstone Road Bridge to the Waterfront, Barry – traffic management.

ADVICE SURGERY

DAVID MELDING, Conservative Assembly Member for South Wales Central region, will be holding an advice surgery on Friday, June 25, at 29 High Street, Barry,.

It will be held between 10am-11.30am.

No appointments are necessary and all are welcome to attend.

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Corner Field, Cowbridge Road Roundabout

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VALE OF GLAMORGAN CF63 STR

Adventure Island Drawing and Colouring Competition

Send in your picture depicting the theme . . .

"SUMMER HOLIDAYS"

1st PRIZE: Summer holiday season ticket for one child, valid 19th July to 15th September, 2010.

2 RUNNER-UP PRIZES: One week of unlimited entry to Adventure Island for 1 child for a week of your choice between 19th July and 5th September, 2010.

AGE CATEGORIES: Up to 5 yrs; 6 to 8 yrs; 9 to 11 yrs.

The winning entries will be displayed at Adventure Island.

Hand in or send your entries along with your name, address, age and telephone number to Rachel Davey at

Adventure Island
3-10 Esplanade Buildings, Friars Road, Barry Island, CF62 5TJ

Closing date: Saturday, 3rd July, 2010.

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Marcus T - Vocalist (9pm)

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The Splott Bottom Boys
display their musical versatility
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featuring Chris & Jordan
plus Rob Hughes

Friday 25th June
DANSETTE
Eight-piece band playing an authentic mix of 60s soul standards from the Stax/Atlantic/Motown stables. A soul journey through that golden era - enjoyment is guaranteed! Doors open 7pm. Ticket entry £5.

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7-9pm - Quiz from 8.30pm

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Sunday lunch (12noon-4pm) 20th June
2 Courses £8.95
Prebooked tables Dads and Grandads - FREE PINT or PUDDING

TOM SHANKLIN - CHARITY BREAKFAST
Saturday 26th June, 7.45am
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Full cooked breakfast
Tickets £10 - Prebook (Limited supply)
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Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools Combined Events Championships, Cardiff International Sports Stadium, Leckwith.

MATHEWS STARS AT ATHLETICS EVENT

Report by PETE MORRIS
Pictures by IAN DIXON

NUMERICALLY, the Vale schools again exceeded expectations in terms of entries for this year's Cardiff & the Vale of Glamorgan Schools' combined events championships.

Of the 196 who took part, 99 were from Vale schools and colleges, with only Stanwell and Westbourne not taking part. Particularly pleasing were the 13 Vale entries out of the best-ever entry of 15 pupils in the senior boys section.

One of the great pleasures in watching the Vale athletes develop over that last two years has been to see the emergence of Curtis Mathews.

The Barry Comprehensive pupil has made huge strides since he won the middle title at this competition in 2008. He has the physical stature, talent and dedication, which suggests that he can go on to make a mark, not only as a Welsh international athlete, but as a future GB competitor.

Here, in his final appearance at a Cardiff & the Vale Schools championships, he made it a third title in consecutive years, retaining his senior title with an inaugural championship best of 2,883 points on a slightly altered series, which includes the 1,000 metres replacing the more usual 1,500 metres, a change which may have attracted that increased senior boys' participation.

At last year's Welsh Schools' combined events championships at Swansea, Curtis won the senior boys competition, while the senior girls' title went to a totally surprised but highly delighted Savannah Taylor.

The Bro Morgannwg pupil, now in year-13, took the Cardiff & the Vale title for the first time and, with the high jump replacing the javelin, her score of 1,944 points stands as an inaugural best.

In the middle sections, for pupils in years 10 and 11, there were second places for year-10 Matthew Roan (St Cyres), the find of the season last summer, and year-11 Ellie Carter (Bryn Hafren), while Jacob Briscombe (Bro Morgannwg, year-9) and Annabel Curle (Cowbridge, year-8) were the top-placed Vale pupils in the junior (years 8 and 9) sections.

Following these championships, the leading pupils will be invited to represent Cardiff & the Vale district at the Welsh Schools' combined events championships, which will be held at Newport on Saturday, June 26.

From that competition, athletes will be invited to the indoor Welsh Schools championships at NIAC in November, from which teams of four will be selected to represent Wales under-16's (years 9 and 10) and under-18's (years 11 and 12) at the SIAB indoor combined events international, which will be held at Glasgow in December.

Results of Vale pupils:

Senior boys – Years 12 and 13 - (JT, 100, LJ, SP, 1,000) – 1 Curtis Mathews Barry Comp 2,883 CBP (41.73, 12.0, 5.89, 12.23, 3.03.70); 3 Oliver Trotman Cowbridge 2,259 (32.61, 12.4, 5.19, 10.03, 3:19.50); 4 Calum Newman Barry Comp 2,234 (27.72, 12.4, 5.55, 8.12, 3:09.80); 6 Tom Sander Cowbridge 2,110 (25.29, 12.8, 5.60, 9.57, 3:23.40); 7 Sam Bunkham Cowbridge 2,108 (28.35, 12.9, 5.28, 8.85, 3:13.90); 8 Fred White Cowbridge 1,904 (24.60, 12.3, 4.24, 9.62, 3:27.10); 9 Tom Harrison Cowbridge 1,853 (20.39, 13.0, 5.05, 9.35, 3:27.60); 10 Steffan Kitchen Cowbridge 1,797 (32.01, 13.9, 4.18, 9.15, 3:17.20); 11 Mike Rosser Cowbridge 1,765 (25.07, 13.5, 4.66, 9.43, 3:28.20); 12 Taylor Harding Bro Morgannwg 1,731 (17.38, 12.6, 4.88, 6.33, 3:20.00); 13 Kyle Garrison Barry College 1,238 (29.10, 14.4, 3.74, 5.66, 3:39.60); David Pitman Barry Comp (20.39, 13.8, 4.17, 8.28, DNS); Hywel Arcos Barry Comp (23.89, 12.3, 3.84, 8.62, DNS).

Middle boys – Years 10 and 11 – (100H, HJ, LJ, SP, 800) – 2 Mathew Roan St Cyres 2,227 (17.5, 1.71, 5.16, 9.12, 2:24.2); 10 Harry Hitchcock Cowbridge 1,826 (17.2, 1.45, 5.12, 8.23, 2:39.8); 14 James Williams Cowbridge 1,605 (17.7, 1.40, 4.53, 7.50, 2:38.7); 15 Emyr George Bro Morgannwg 1,585 (19.7, 1.40, 4.32, 8.34, 2:27.5); 16 Dafi Davies Bro Morgannwg 1,530 (19.4, 1.40, 4.56, 8.20, 2:38.0); 19 Joe Green St Cyres 1,468 (20.7, 1.35, 5.01, 9.15, 2:46.1); 20 Mathew Edwards Barry Comp 1,431 (20.7, 1.20, 4.43, 4.77, 2:10.0); 23 Mathew Whiteley Cowbridge 1,375 (20.8, 1.40, 4.63, 7.80, 2:43.1); 24 Christian Walters Cowbridge 1,367 (19.1, 1.20, 4.59, 8.16, 2:43.7); 27 Will Power Barry Comp 1,303 (21.8, 1.30, 4.61, 8.05, 2:39.4); 31 Jody Dean St Richard Gwyn 1,158 (19.9, 1.35, 4.17, 5.70, 2:46.8); 32 Liam Tucker St Richard Gwyn 1,154 (DNF, 1.45, 4.44, 7.27, 2:43.3); 35 Connor Doyle Barry Comp 1,046 (19.3, 1.20, 4.39, 6.85, DNF); 36 Nic Taylor St Richard Gwyn 861 (21.0, 1.20, 4.23, 5.45, 2:59.7); Ollie Hitchings Cowbridge (20.8, 1.35, 4.39, 7.09, DNS).

Junior boys – Years 8 and 9 - (SP, 80H, HJ, LJ, 800) – 3 Jacob Briscombe Bro Morgannwg (1,851, 8.99, 14.4, 1.52, 4.82, 2:40.5); 4 Mathew Collins Barry Comp (1,775, 8.80, 15.8, 1.28, 4.74, 2:19.4); 5 George Griffiths Cowbridge (1,685, 8.61, 14.1, 1.52, 5.11, 3:09.1); 8 Scott Laken Cowbridge (1,638, 8.16, 14.1, 1.34, 4.33, 2:38.0); 13 George Connolly Bro Morgannwg (1,531, 7.98, 14.4, 1.34, 4.34, 2:45.0); 14 Harri Williams Bro Morgannwg (1,507, 7.12, 14.9, 1.40, 4.10, 2:38.3); 18 Ieuan Orton Bro Morgannwg (1,461, 6.04 13.9, 1.46, 4.39, 2:54.4); 20 Che Pomphrey St Cyres (1,395, 7.41, 15.8, 1.10, 4.44, 2:31.2); 22 Chris Powell Cowbridge (1,366, 7.55, 15.2, 1.28, 4.67, 2:54.2); 25 Tom Adams Barry Comp (1,284, 7.34, 15.2, 1.40, 3.24, 2:46.5); 27 Tomos Harvard St Cyres (1,225, 7.21, 17.2, 1.28, 4.11, 2:42.0); 28 Rhys Elms Cowbridge (1,211, 7.56, 15.9, 1.28, 4.13, 2:54.8); 33 Sam Thompson Barry Comp (7.08, 16.6, 1.28, 4.16, 3:10.7); Harry Giernaiczyk St Richard Gwyn (4.42, 18.1, DNS, 3.64, DNS); Daniel Bell St Richard Gwyn (6.34, 18.0, 1.10, 3.60, DNS).

Senior girls – Years 12 and 13 - (HJ, 100, LJ, SP, 1,500) – 1 Savannah Taylor Bro Morgannwg 1,944 CBP (1.35, 14.3, 4.06, 7.28, 3:08.9); 2 Beth Jarvis Cowbridge 1,424 (1.15, 15.4, 3.59, 5.08, 3:01.1); 3 Georgia Kemeys Cowbridge 1,418 (1.15, 15.5, 3.55, 5.98, 3:05.9); 4 Alice Thomas Cowbridge 1,325 (1.20, 15.3, 3.87, 5.78, 3:38.4).

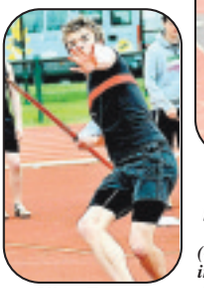
Middle girls – Years 10 and 11 - (HJ, 80H, LJ, SP, 800) – 2 Ellie Carter Bryn Hafren 2,033 (1.35, 4.22, 14.8, 8.14, 3:06.3); 3 Danielle Green St Richard Gwyn 1,915 (1.30, 3.96, 16.4, 6.93, 2:45.9); 4 Natalie Parsons Llantwit Major 1,770 (1.38, 3.42, 14.5, 6.62, 3:11.8); 7 April Dee St Richard Gwyn 1,683 (1.25, 4.02, 16.5, 7.17, 3:06.9); 8 Maisie Mathews Bro Morgannwg 1,677 (1.38, 3.87, 16.4, 6.30, 3:13.7); 9 Brenna Organ Bryn Hafren 1,674 (1.25, 3.73, 16.4, 7.10, 3:00.9); 10 Sarah Herbert Bryn Hafren 1,661 (1.20, 4.03, 16.4, 8.10, 3:12.4); 13 Megan Thomas Bro Morgannwg 1,386 (1.30, 3.71, 17.0, 7.35, 3.48.5); 14 Emma Worrall Llantwit Major 1,356 (1.38, 3.44, 14.6, 0.00, 3:25.3); 15 Megan Thickpenny Bryn Hafren 1,294 (1.25, 3.50, 17.9, 5.60, 3:17.4); 16 Zoe Stevens Bro Morgannwg 1,203 (1.15, 3.82, 16.3, 6.15, 4:01.2); 18 Jessica Jackson Bryn Hafren 1,146 (1.15, 3.31, 17.4, 6.87, 3:39.0); 20 Danielle Close Bryn Hafren 982 (1.10, 2.63, 18.6, 6.02, 3:19.0); 21 Shannon Ryan St Richard Gwyn 813 (1.10, 3.00, 19.2, 5.13, 3:42.7); Georgina Jackson Cowbridge (1.15, 3.81, DNS, 6.06, 3:37.3); Jess Lewis St Richard Gwyn (0.00, 2.93, DNS, 4.08, 3:20.3).

Junior girls – Years 8 and 9 - (LJ, SP, 75H, HJ, 800) – 3 Annabel Curle Cowbridge 1,893 (3.87, 5.12, 15.2, 1.40, 2:46.4); 7 Caitlin Allin Cowbridge 1,621 (3.99, 5.49, 15.3, 1.34, 3:13.3); 9 Catrin Cosier Bryn Hafren 1,570 (3.73, 5.89, 16.1, 1.34, 3:08.7); 11 Rachel Cosier Bryn Hafren 1,533 (3.72, 5.46, 16.6, 1.22, 2:53.2); 13 Carys Knapman Bryn Hafren 1,504 (3.79, 4.77, 15.8, 1.28, 3:05.1); 16 Amie Parsons Llantwit Major 1,405 (3.63, 5.04, 14.6, 1.28, 3:28.1); 17 Bethan Yapp Bro Morganwg 1,397 (3.31, 6.42, 16.6, 1.28, 3:12.4); 19 Miriam Bennett Cowbridge 1,360 (3.22, 4.25, 15.1, 1.22, 3:03.9); 20 Amy Smith St Cyres 1,341 (3.38, 6.32, 17.3, 1.28, 3:15.1); 21 Jordan Carpenter Cowbridge 1,322 (3.38, 4.22, 18.5, 1.22, 2:48.9); 22 Chelsea Siirak Bro Morganwg 1,302 (4.01, 5.09, 16.2, 1.16, 3:21.8); 23 Jessica Morgan Bro Morganwg 1,288 (3.45, 5.35, 15.5, 1.22, 3:23.9); 24 Joanna Williams Cowbridge 1,246 (3.69, 4.80, 16.6, 1.22, 3:21.4); 27 Izzy Eddy-Williams Cowbridge 1,173 (3.62, 4.82, 15.8, 1.10, 3.22.0); 32 Zoe Jenkins Bryn Hafren 1,065 (3.56, 3.32, 15.2, 1.16, 3:39.1); 37 Kirsty Hogg St Cyres 967 (3.57, 5.17, 16.2, 0.00, 3:17.5); 39 Nancie Edwards Cowbridge 963 (3.31, 4.49, 18.7, 1.10, 3:15.9); 41 Tillie Carter Bryn Hafren 908 (3.30, 4.41, 18.4, 0.00, 2:57.3); 42 Georgina Wilson Dixon St Cyres 901 (3.23, 5.30, 16.6, 0.00, 3:15.0); 43 Rachel Hignett St Cyres 893 (2.80, 5.13, 18.1, 1.10, 3:23.3); 44 Bethan White Cowbridge 861 (3.30, 4.37, 18.3, 0.00, 3:02.7); 45 Jennifer Hampton Bro Morganwg 842 (3.29, 5.03, 17.2, 1.10, DNF); 49 Emily Bonney Cowbridge 814 (3.02, 3.97, 19.0, 1.10, 3:22.7); 50 Page Jones St Richard Gwyn 805 (3.12, 5.55, 17.0, 0.00, 3:24.6); 51 Mellisa Gooding Cowbridge 773 (2.81, 2.89, 19.9, 1.22, 3:24.1); 53 Ellen Mahintheralingan St Cyres 757 (3.00, 5.29, 20.2, 0.00, 3:04.5); 54 Madison Declaire Bro Morganwg 699 (3.81, 5.96, DNF, 0.00, 3:25.5); 55 Abby Dee St Richard Gwyn 606 (2.92, 3.56, 16.0, 0.00, 3:44.2); 56 Hannah Woodward Cowbridge 602 (2.70, 6.02, 16.9, 0.00, DNF); 58 Lauren Bailey St Cyres 520 (2.85, 4.82, 19.5, 0.00, 3:35.0); 59 Gab King St Richard Gwyn 483 (3.08, 4.07, 17.9, 0.00, DNF); 60 Zoe Hodkinson Bryn Hafren 176 (2.64, 2.79, 23.5, 0.00, 3:48.7); Rebecca John Cowbridge (3.89, 4.25, 17.7, 0.00, DNS); Aimee Price Llantwit Major (3.42, 5.65, DNS, 1.16, DNS); Rachel Shalom St Richard Gwyn (3.35, 5.66, DNS); Olivia Brown Cowbridge (3.21 4.95, DNS).

Jacob Briscome (Bro Morgannwg, 107) leading Vale pupil in the junior (years 8 and 9) boys' championships.

Senior girls winner Savannah Taylor (Bro Morgannwg).

Curtis Mathews (Barry Comprehensive, 258) leads from Tom Sander (Cowbridge, 264), Taylor Harding (Bro Morgannwg, 260) and Hywel Arcos (Barry Comprehensive) in a heat of the senior boys' 100 metres.



Oliver Trotman (Cowbridge) on his way to third in the senior boys' competition.

Aviva UK under-13 Sportshall standing long jump champion George Griffiths (Cowbridge) competed in the under-15 (years 8 and 9) competition and was selected to compete at the Welsh Schools combined events championships.

Be a winner in the Vale's annual gardening competition

Competition Classes

• Barry and Penarth

1. Best Front Garden
2. Most Beautiful Hanging Basket Display
3. Best Disabled Gardener's Entry
4. Best Children's Entry
5. Best Residential Home/Sheltered Accommodation
6. Best Commercial Entry

• Villages

1. Best Front Garden
2. Best Commercial Entry
3. Most Beautiful Hanging Basket Display

Entry Form

Name .....

.....

Full Address .....

Post Code ..... Telephone No. .....

Classes .....

Please send completed form to:

Vale in Bloom, The Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps, Wenvoe, CF5 6AA

- Entries must be clearly visible from the road or footpath to the front of the property.
- Prizes will be awarded for the first, second and third placed entrants in each class, as the judges deem appropriate. Plaques or certificates will be awarded to prize winners in all classes. Cash prizes will be awarded for non-commercial classes only. Commercial classes can allocate their prize to a charity of their choice.
- Children entering Class 4 must be under 16.
- Entrants who win a class for three consecutive years will not be allowed to enter the following year.
- Classes for the "Vale in Bloom Competition" will be – Best Front Garden and Best Commercial Entry
- **Judging will take place during the two weeks commencing 2nd August, 2010.**
- Judges decision will be final in all classes.
- **Closing date for entries will be on 30th July, 2010.**

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LETTINGS

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Point-to-Point winners are announced

ON AND OFF THE TURF with BRIAN LEE

THIS year's south Wales area point-to-point trophy winners are as follows:

JOCKEYS: Welsh Champion – Men (DR Thomas Perpetual Trophy) South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – John Mathias.

Welsh Champion – Ladies (B Thomas Perpetual Trophy) South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – Isabel Tompsett.

Sport of Kings Perpetual Trophy – Most wins at any meeting throughout whole country – Winner – John Mathias.

Bill Jones Memorial Trophy Gentleman resident in South Wales (Mon) area with most wins within that area – Joint winners – Tom David, Rhys Hughes.

Novice Rider South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – Nathan Deakin.

Novice Rider South Wales (Mon) Area – Winner – John Norman.

HORSES: Champion Horse: (Spillers Perpetual Trophy) Most wins in South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – *Grey Kid* (Mrs I Shervington, Pembs).

Champion Mare: (Elfyn David Memorial Trophy) South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – *Makena* (Mr DL Evans, Pembs).

Maiden Horse: (George L Williams Memorial Trophy) South Wales (Mon) Area – Winner – *On Oath* (Mrs C E Goldsworthy, Tredegar).

Champion Older Horse: (Lord Charles Trophy) 12 years or over – South Wales (Mon) & West Wales Areas – Winner – *Grey Kid* (Mrs I Shervington, Pembs).

Champion Open/Hunter Chase Horse: (Peter Curry Memorial Trophy) Most wins in Open Point to Points/Hunter Chases. South Wales (Mon) Area horses – Winner – *Minsgill Mans* (Mr JW Tudor, Llangeinor).

● *This result can only be confirmed once the season has closed as it incorporates races outside of Wales – and there are other horses who could be in contention if they won at these remaining meetings.*

CHARITY LUNCH

THE Cowbridge committee of Cancer Research UK Cymru are holding their popular summer lunch on Tuesday, June 29 in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge, from 12noon-2pm.

Tickets are available from committee members, by telephoning 01446 773742/774062, and on the day.

Older learners from Baltic and the Black Sea in get-together

PRIME CYMRU last week hosted older learners from Gdansk, Valencia, Bratislava, and Giresun, on Turkey's Black Sea coast.

What makes this exchange so unusual is that all the participants are over the age of 50 and that they are all learning English with the help of Welsh volunteers who work as electronic mentors and electronic penpals.

Beverley Kennett from Bridgend and Lindsey Wells from Porthcawl, are local volunteers who recently visited Valencia, as part of the Discovering the World Anew project and hosted their penpals when they visited Wales.

This innovative project is being undertaken by one of the Prince of Wales' charities, established to encourage older people to become and remain economically active.

Prime's volunteers have been operating as electronic penpals to their transnational partners, improving their IT skills and learning about the culture and heritage of different countries.

These skills increase the participant's self-confidence and employability. Prime is currently working with 75 penpals.

The project has been funded by the EU under their Grundtvig programme to encourage lifelong learning.

While in Wales, the learners undertook intensive English language tuition in the company of their penpals, Beverley and Lindsey, while learning about Wales and the UK.

They had the opportunity to try the best in traditional Welsh (and British) food, including laverbread, cockles, cawl, fish and chips, Welsh beer, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding.

The party was hosted by the Welsh Assembly Government's Gwenda Thomas AM, who talked to the group of the importance of older people in society.

The Deputy Minister responsible for older people also explained the 10-year strategy for older people that was being implemented.

The Deputy Older Person's Commissioner for Wales talked about the need for older people to continue to live life to the full and never to stop learning and having adventures.

The European learners visited the Senedd, Caerphilly Castle, the National Museum of Wales, visited a traditional British pub and finished their programme with a banquet at Cardiff Castle.

They were accompanied by their Welsh penpals throughout the whole visit and encouraged to speak only in English, with a little Welsh!

Some of the Turkish visitors had never been to Europe before, never flown or experienced a non-Muslim culture.

Their endurance of a 27-hour journey to take part in the programme showed a real quest for knowledge.

David Pugh, Chief Executive of Prime Cymru said:

"They met as distant learners and left as close friends. Participants realised the similarities of their cultures and increased their understanding.

Those who were sceptical at the start of the programme are now embracing their European citizenship."

TM

Prime encourages lifelong learning. Why should adventures be restricted to the young?

We should all continue to live, love, learn and have adventures all the way through our lives.

Hopefully we can expand this pilot project to enable all older people to engage with their European neighbours.

News from the Boys' Brigade's 2nd Llantwit Major Company

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO LEAD JUNIOR SECTION

The weather failed to dampen enthusiasm or spirits.

WITH the retirement of three leaders in July, the very successful Boys' Brigade Company in Llantwit Major is in urgently in need of new volunteers.

At present, the anchor section has two leaders for the five and six-year-olds, and the company/senior sections for 11-18-year-olds has two regular and two standby helpers.

The junior section for 7-11-year-olds is, however, in need of at least one new leader to work alongside the two helpers.

The juniors meet in the hall at Tabernacle Presbyterian Church, Methodist Lane, Llantwit Major on a Thursday evening from 6.45pm-7.45pm.

In accordance with the present legislation for working with young people, all leaders will need to be CRB checked; this will be free, as will training to work with this age group.

Getting set for the expedition.

While the Boys' Brigade is a Christian organisation, staff do not have to be members of a church to take on this rewarding work in the formative years of boys.

If you are interested, call me on 01446 796374 and learn all about it!

QUALIFIED

THREE boys recently completed their qualifying Duke of Edinburgh bronze expedition with three other boys from Cardiff, while three completed their silver expedition.

One boy will be taking his gold expedition during August.

Five senior boys are going to London shortly to take part in a competition to follow a trail, find and interpret clues.

More news after the event.

ANDY WELLSBURY (Leader)

Local boxers in action

TWO Llantwit Major boxers were recently in action in a contest against Fairfield BC.

Dillon Cooke fought against Sam Jones of Fairfield. The fight started at a fast pace with Sam being more aggressive and pushing Dillon back against the ropes, but Dillon landed the cleaner shots from a good high defence.

The second round saw Dillon using the jab, landing at ease. Sam was still trying to push the pace forward but Dillon's fitness started telling.

The last round saw Dillon pushing the Fairfield boxer back with some good clean shots. The fight ended with the judges giving the decision to Dillon.

Daniel Ruffle of Llantwit Major Boxing Club boxed an exhibition bout against Josh Jones of Fairfield.

As both were Welsh champions, neither wanted to give anything away. It was a good hard-fought contest, even though it was only an exhibition. No winner was announced. Daniel Ruffle is now training with the Welsh elite squad ready to represent Wales in the British championships in July.

Call for better NHS treatment of autism

MADELEINE MOON MP has warned that thousands of children with autism in England are needlessly facing a future of mental health problems, because the NHS does not know how to help them.

Madeleine Moon with the autism message.

She is backing a new campaign by the National Autistic Society (NAS), You Need to Know, which aims to tackle "an unfit mental health system that fails two thirds of children with autism and often makes their mental health worse".

The Bridgend MP said: "We all need to know that by giving children with autism the understanding and support they need, we help promote their health and happiness.

"Too many are currently developing preventable mental health problems and find themselves up against a broken system that doesn't understand them or their needs. It is a tragic waste of their potential."

More than 70 per cent of children with autism have a mental health problem, such as depression, obsessive compulsive disorder and other anxiety disorders, despite the fact that many of these problems are preventable.

Autism is a complex disability and so when mental health problems do develop in children with the condition they are much harder to recognise, diagnose and treat without appropriate knowledge.

Tragically, they are often dismissed as an unfortunate, but unavoidable side effect of having autism.

Mark Lever, chief executive of the NAS, said: "All too often children with autism receive inappropriate, ineffectual and sometimes harmful treatment of their mental health problems.

"This has a devastating effect on families, many of whom develop their own mental health problems as a result."

Mrs Moon is also calling on local children and families affected by autism to nominate their Happiness Hero – an individual who has gone the extra mile to support a child with autism. It could be a mental health professional, teacher, youth group worker or another individual who has made a positive difference to the life of a child with autism.

For more information, visit www.autism.org.uk/youneedtoknow.

SEARCH IS ON FOR VALE'S TOP GARDENERS

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

The Vale of Glamorgan Council has launched it's annual search for the area's top gardens.

The Barry, Penarth and Villages in Bloom competitions involve residents and businesses across the Vale, with organisers selecting overall Vale in Bloom winners in best front garden and best commercial classes.

The Barry and Penarth competition will cover six classes of best front garden, most beautiful hanging basket display, best disabled gardener's entry, best children's entry (under 16), best residential home/sheltered accommodation and best commercial entry (including schools, but with a slightly different judging criteria).

In the Villages in Bloom competitions, there will be two classes, best front garden and best commercial entry.

The competitions are free to enter, with cash prizes and plaques or certificates. Some winners can also receive the following trophies:

Front garden: Penarth's best entry in the seafront conservation area receives the Robert and Joan Ernest Trophy.

Hanging basket display: Barry winner (Peter May Memorial Trophy).

Disabled gardener: Barry winner (Tony Gatt Memorial Cup).

Childen: Penarth winner (David Morgan Trophy) and Barry winner (Cabot Trophy).

The only requirement for entry is that displays must be visable from the road or footpath to the front of the property.

Application forms can be obtained from council offices in Barry (Civic and Dock), Wenvoe (The Alps), Penarth, Llantwit Major and Cowbridge, local libraries, by telephoning **01446 700111** and on the council website **www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk.**

The closing date for entries is 30th July, 2010.

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cowbridge-today.co.uk
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VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

Adult Services
Gwasanaethau Oedolion

Care Attendant #*

£6.83 per hour
18.5 hours per week
Ref: V/CC/PY643

For further information and an application form contact the Council by visiting www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or telephone Contact OneVale on 01446 700111 between 8am-6pm.

Closing date: 1 July 2010

Subject to # Job Evaluation and * CRB Disclosure.

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk
The Vale of Glamorgan Council is an equal opportunities employer.
Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg yn gyflogwr cyfle cyfartal.

Public Notices

LICENSING ACT 2003
Section 34
Notice of Application to Vary a Premises Licence

NOTICE IS GIVEN THAT an application has been made to Bridgend County Borough Council (the Licensing Authority) for a **VARIATION TO THE PREMISES LICENCE** in respect of the premises shown below.

Details of the application may be inspected between the hours of Monday to Thursday 0830 to 1700 hours and Friday 0830 to 1630 hours at Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB or by visiting the authority's website: www.bridgend.gov.uk.

Any interested party or responsible authority may make representations in respect of the application, which must be submitted, in writing, to the following address before the date shown below: The Licensing Section, Bridgend County Borough Council, Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4WB.

Name of applicant:
IL PANINO LIMITED, of 1-3 Market Street, Bridgend, CF31 1LL

Details of the proposed variation: To extend the sale of alcohol, and recorded music, Monday to Saturday 0800 - 2230 hours and Sundays 1800 - 2230 hours, and Bank Holiday Mondays 0800 - 2230 hours; to extend the opening hours from 0800 - 2300 hours Monday to Saturday and Bank Holiday Mondays and Sundays 1800 - 2300 hours.

Date by which representations must be made: 6th July, 2010.

This notice remains in force from and including the day after the giving of this notice to the licensing authority, namely 8th June, 2010, for 28 consecutive days.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. The maximum fine on summary conviction is £5,000.

Gareth Jones are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of ***£85,000*** for **25 Forster St, BARRY CF63 2JE**
Anyone wishing to place an offer on the property should contact Gareth Jones, 85 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX - 01446 744812 before exchange of contracts.

Apartment 7, YMCA Building, Woodlands Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4EF.
We act on behalf of the mortgagees in possession and they are in receipt of an offer of £54,950 subject to contract for the above property. Anyone wishing to place a higher offer must do so before legal exchange of contracts by contacting Gareth Jones, 85 High Street, Barry CF62 7DX. Tel 01446 744812.

VALE of GLAMORGAN
BRO MORGANNWG

Voluntary Action Scheme 2011-2012

Applications are invited from voluntary organisations wishing to undertake projects that promote a "safer Vale", health and well being, lifelong learning, children and young people's welfare, and economic and environmental improvements within the Councils' area.

Projects under this scheme may be of one, two or three years duration commencing 1 April 2011.

Further information and application form can be obtained from:

Vale of Glamorgan Council, Finance Dept. (Accountancy Section), Civic Offices, Holton Rd., Barry, CF63 4RU. Tel: 01446 709250, Fax: 01446 701729, Email: ADWilliams@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Closing date for applications is 4.30pm Friday 24th September 2010.

Sian Davies, Director of Finance, ICT & Property Civic Offices, Holton Road, BARRY CF63 4RU

www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

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02920 598762
07816 172933

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01446 732222
07895 467000

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Up to £150 paid on collection, for scrap, MOT failures, and tax expired vehicles. Also body shells and scrap metals collected. No wheels, no problem.
Tel: 029 2059 7887
07971 648596

Birthdays

Grace Osborne
Happy 18th Birthday, Grace!
19th June, 2010
All our love, Mum, Dad & Megan. xxx
Enjoy your party!

Family Notices

WOLDRIDGE
Dilys
Ken, Margaret and Kevin would like to thank all the family and friends who attended the funeral of Dilys. With many thanks to the doctors and staff of the clinic at Boverton Road for their care, and to the Princess of Wales Hospital and W.A. Brown and staff for all their help at this sad time.
She will be sadly missed.

Property

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Public Notices

Heritage Coast HOMES

RECRUITMENT OF SHADOW BOARD MEMBERS

Are you passionate about the community in the Vale of Glamorgan? Do you want to give something back?

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is asking tenants to consider the options for the future of their homes. One option is to transfer the ownership and management of the Council's 3,949 homes to a new community housing mutual organisation which will be specifically set up for this purpose. The proposed transfer can only go ahead if tenants support it in a confidential ballot planned for early 2011.

Before then we need local people to become Shadow Board Members of the new organisation to help shape the strategic direction, policies and investment priorities of the new organisation. The Shadow Board will be made up of four Vale of Glamorgan Council tenants, four Council nominees and four independent people from the community, who together will be responsible for the overall strategy and direction of the organisation.

We are now seeking the right people with the right skills and expertise to become Independent Shadow Board Members, with the appointments being made by the Tenant and Council Shadow Board Members.

To succeed in this role, you will need to have an interest in social housing in the Vale of Glamorgan and be able to commit time to attend Shadow Board and sub-committee meetings and associated events and activities such as training sessions and 'away days'. You must be willing to give a commitment of time and energy and to work as part of a team within the Shadow Board's agreed vision, values and culture.

If transfer goes ahead, the Shadow Board Members will work closely with officers and tenants to help deliver the best possible housing service for the Vale of Glamorgan and to bring homes up to the Welsh Housing Quality Standard.

We are looking for people with business skills and expertise and/or experience in a governance role in a similar community interest organisation. Board membership is unpaid but reasonable and proper travel costs and out of pocket expenses will be met. Induction training and ongoing support will be available to help new members develop in the role.

If you think you can help us to establish this brand new organisation which would be responsible for delivering an exciting multi-million pound investment programme for the Vale of Glamorgan's council tenants if the transfer goes ahead, then we would like to hear from you.

Vale of Glamorgan Councillors and Council tenants cannot apply as these groups are already represented on the Shadow Board. For an information pack or an informal chat about the role please contact:

Closing date: 1 July 2010, 12 noon.

Tony Jaques, Head of Housing
01446 709488
Email: tjaques@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

For further information please visit:
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

Motors For Sale

S Reg Vauxhall Corsa 3-Dr Auto
Tax & MOT.
46,000 miles.
£995 ono
01446 773307 22

2002 Ford Fiesta Freestyle 3-Dr.
Pale green, alloy wheels, CD, E/Windows, MOT/Tax, 42,000 miles.
£2,100 ono
01446 743122 22

Mini 03 53
Red, good condition, full chilli pack, full leather, full Mini FSH, 17" Cooper S alloys, Xenon wash headlamps, traction control sport suspension, front fogs, on-board computer, leather steering wheel, tinted glass. Lady owner.
£5,995 ono
01446 421187 or 07813 847396 23

Saab 93 Convert 2.L
Private Reg 2000
Power roof, full e/pack, heated seats, cream leather interior, MOT & Tax, VOG.
£2,200 ono
07903 822944 24

V Reg Corsa
New MOT,
Two months tax, 1000cc, ideal first car. Silver, VGC.
£750 ono
01446 751643, 750609 or mobile 07910 359627 23

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53 Ford Focus
Zetec 1.6 5-Dr
Metallic green, 60,000 miles.
£2,995
07752 537959 23

---

03 Ford Ka 1.3
Black, 59k miles, 12 months MOT, Oct. tax
£1,950
07970 049005 25

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58 Ford KA 1.3 Zetec
Alloys, A/C, E/W, CD, met. sea grey, quickclear, 10,500 miles, Ford warranty, as new.
£4,895
07809 826532 23

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2003 Ace Award Morning Star
Immaculate condition, complete with all accessories, full awning and inner tent, eco groundsheet, winter cover, recently fully serviced.
£6,250 no offers!
01446 735865 23

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Articles For Sale

ADVERTISE HERE for up to 4 weeks for 50p a word plus VAT. To take advantage of this offer simply either send in your description along with a cheque for the appropriate amount made payable to "The Glamorgan Gem" at The Gem, Graig House, 53 Eastgate, Cowbridge CF71 7EL or telephone us with your wording by 12 noon Tuesday. All major credit cards accepted. Tel 01446 774484. Advert must contain a residential land line telephone number. You may alter your advert as items are sold. **Sorry no refunds are given.**

PORTABLE Bath bubble lift. Easy to use, £200. Tel: 01656 890348. **(25)**

FILING CABINET 4 drawers, lockable £30. Upright Broadwood large piano, dark wood, buyer to collect £100. Tel: 01446 772101. **(25)**

SOLID TEAK rectangle garden table and four carvers with cushions. Will seat 6, 4 years old, excellent condition £90. Tel: 01446 794443. **(25)**

80 TON STONE Approximately, demolished barn. £60 ton. Tel: 07813 960208. **(25)**

ITALIAN LEATHER Three seater, two seater & chair. New, still wrapped, £450. Tel: 01446 774364. **(25)**

YAMAHA ORGAN Electone EL7. Twin keyboard, as new. £350. Tel: 01656 652561. **(24)**

NAPOLI 4FT FUTON Carlisle chocolate colour. Never used. Cost £299, will sell £100. Buyer collect. Tel; 01446 792588. **(24)**

OLYMPUS SPORT Enduro computerised crosstrainer. Condition as new £90. Tel: 01446 710271. **(24)**

MAHOGANY FIREPLACE with marble surround and hearth £90 ono. Tel: 01446 795043. **(24)**

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barry-today.co.uk
cowbridge-today.co.uk
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porthcawl-today.co.uk
bridgend-today.co.uk

Glamorgan GEM Websites
News, Sport, Letters, Features, What's On, Jobs, Motors....

CCTV AIDS ARRESTS

CCTV, under the umbrella of the Safer Vale Partnership, assisted with eight arrests in the week ending June 13.

It contacted the police on 22 occasions, with three Barry arrests taking place on June 7 – one concerning theft (Holton Road); one for being wanted for assault (Regent Street); and another for theft (Holton Road).

Three arrests were made on various drugs offences at Pencoedtre (June 10) while on the same day another arrest was made for public order (Barry's Lombard Street).

In addition, an arrest was made concerning possession of an offensive weapon at Park Crescent on June 13.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT, 1990

CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG DEDDF CYNLLUNIO (ADEILADAU RHESTREDIG AC ARDALOEDD CADWRAETH) 1990

NOTICE is hereby given that application has been made to the Council for planning permission for the undermentioned developments:

HYSBYSIR trwy hyn i geisiadau gael eu gwneud i'r Cyngor am ganiatâd cynllunio ar gyfer y datblygiadau canlynol:

Development in Conservation Areas
Datblygiad mewn Ardaloedd Cadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00346/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Change of use of ground floor A1 retail unit at 64A to D1 Dentist Practice, as an expansion of existing Dentist at 64C (First Floor), plus ramp to front and associated alterations
Location:/Lleoliad: 64A and 64C, Eastgate, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Cowbridge with Llanblethian

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00522/ADV
Proposal:/Cynnig: Fascia signs to be placed on the pavilion to request support for the renovation of the pier building
Location:/Lleoliad: Penarth Pavilion, The Esplanade, Penarth
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Penarth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00532/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Double storey side extension (East side)
Location:/Lleoliad: 58, Millfield Drive, Cowbridge
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Cowbridge with Llanblethian

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00538/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Installation of pvc garage door to existing carport, to match existing adjacent garage door
Location:/Lleoliad: 2, White House, Cold Knap, Barry
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Barry (Marine)

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00566/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolish existing office/stables. Construct one detached dwelling
Location:/Lleoliad: Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Michaelston-le-Pit

Listed Building Consent
Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/Rhif y cais: 2010/00563/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Install rooflights in existing single storey kitchen at rear of property
Location:/Lleoliad: 13, Marine Parade, Penarth
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig Grade II

Conservation Area Consent
Caniatâd Ardal Gadwraeth

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00564/CAC
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolish existing office/stables
Location:/Lleoliad: Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit
Conservation Area:/
Ardal Gadwraeth Michaelston-le-Pit

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 1995
GORCHYMYN CYNLLUNIO GWLAD A THREF (TREFN DATBLYGIAD CYFFREDINOL) 1995

Departure from the Provision of the Development Plan
Ceisiadau nad ydynt yn cydymffurfio
â Darpariaeth y Cynllun Datblygu

Application No:/
Rhif y cais: 2010/00566/FUL
Proposal:/Cynnig: Demolish existing office/stables. Construct one detached dwelling
Location:/Lleoliad: Cottage Farm, Michaelston-Le-Pit

Full details (including plans) may be inspected during normal working hours for a period of 21 days in the offices of the Head of Planning and Transportation at the address given below, or via the Council's Online Applications Register at vog.planning-register.co.uk
Mae'r holl fanylion (gan gynnwys y cynlluniau) i'w gweld yn swyddfeydd Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant y cyngor (gwelwch y cyfeiriad ar waelod y dudalen) yn ystod oriau arferol swyddfa, am gyfnod o 21 o ddiwrnodau. Cewch eu gweld hefyd ar Gofrestr Ceisiadau Ar-lein y cyngor drwy fynd i vog.planning-register.co.uk.

Dated: 17 June, 2010
Rob Thomas
Head of Planning and Transportation
The Vale of Glamorgan Council,
Dock Office,
Barry Docks,
Barry
CF63 4RT

Dyddiedig: 17 Mehefin, 2010
Rob Thomas
Pennaeth Cynllunio a Chludiant
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg,
Swyddfa'r Doc,
Dociau'r Barri,
Y Barri
CF63 4RT

NEWS FROM PENARTH COMPUTER CLUB

TIME FOR A NEW OPERATING SYSTEM?

SHOULD you convert to Microsoft's Windows 7 Operating System (OS) for your computer?

About a third of the club members are now using it and others are thinking about it. Steve and Howard led a discussion about how the new system was performing.

Microsoft says it has sold more than 100 million licences; that over a quarter of a million devices work with the system and that over a million software applications will run within it.

The software includes eight out of 10 top accounting packages; all 10 top games (in the US) and all 10 top (US) security applications. They admit that some might need an already available upgrade package to run them.

A total of 5,000 applications and 13,000 devices and components carry the 'Compatible with Windows 7' logo.

PC ADVISER magazine nominated the OS as Product of the Year 2009.

The feeling is that Microsoft is improving its position. A discussion brought out several points.

Several members were running XP on one machine and Windows 7 on another. Most of these were still happily familiarising themselves with the new OS to discover the additional benefits. Windows 7 is definitely faster.

It was noted that those who were happy with XP, or indeed Vista, felt no need to upgrade, as what they currently use does everything they need, then they see no point in changing. (Many folk simply hate change anyway).

Windows XP will work quite well for some years yet; even if not fully supported by Microsoft – and there are SOME applications that do not work under the new OS.

Some users who bought machines preloaded with Vista insisted on 'downgrading' back to XP. That will not happen if the next one has Windows 7 on it.

Diehards will stick with the familiar until forced to change. The cash saving will eventually convert to a cost in time and trouble to keep the old thing running. Like a classic car enthusiast, their effort might result in some satisfaction, but probably nowhere near as much.

To be fair, there are some satisfied guys at Bletchley Park (a lovingly reconstructed Colossus) and the adjoining National Computer Museum with ancient models kept working.

For the rest, most people will be contentedly using the latest OS in a few years' time. It is looking good.

A brief display of how single or multiple windows can be handled on screen was a revelation to some.

For more information, call 029 2070 8439.

HOWARD DESMOND

Two awards for local historian

MILITARY historian Dr Jonathan Hicks, a regular contributor to The GEM columns, has won the Western Front Association's Les Hughes Memorial Shield.

Jonathan Hicks

His illustrated lecture on 'Barry and the Great War' was deemed to be the outstanding presentation of 2009-10 by the WFA committee.

He was also recently presented with the Victorian Military Society's top award for his work on the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879.

The south Wales branch of the WFA meets at Fairwater Conservative Club on the first Friday of each month.

PACT meetings

CADOC PACT, Palmerston Community Centre, July 7 at 7pm.
COWBRIDGE PACT, The Fire Station, Druids Green on June 28 at 7pm.
WENVOE PACT, Wenvoe Community Hall, June 28 at 7pm.
LLANTWIT MAJOR PACT, Llantwit Major Leisure Centre, June 29 at 7pm.
CORNERSWELL PACT, Cogan Leisure Centre, June 24 at 7pm.
PLYMOUTH PACT, Brockhill Way Community Centre, June 30 at 7pm.

RECYCLING AND RETAIL PLASTIC BAGS: *Vale Council's reply*

I REFER to your reader's letter entitled 'recycling and plastic bags' published in the June 10 edition of the Glamorgan GEM.

The Vale of Glamorgan Council is continually considering its future recycling policies to meet its challenging recycling targets, in compliance with our new National Waste Strategy – Towards Zero Waste, which will be launched on June 21.

The Welsh National Assembly Government's proposal to charge for single use retail plastic carrier bags was first consulted on in June of last year, following which we did implement policy changes to account for possible resident resentment in having to pay for single use plastic bags and their potential use in our kerbside sort recycling schemes.

That is why our 'What's in your Bin?' recycling calendar no longer refers to plastic bags, and states that up to three recycling boxes will be issued to householders.

This should eliminate the need to use plastic bags, while still meeting the service requirement to collect unmixed paper, cans and glass. Although, should plastic bags still appear in the household waste stream, it would be more environmentally friendly to use them as part of our recycling collection than throw them in the black bag for land–filling.

In order for us to comply with the Welsh Assembly Government's aims for making all Welsh-based recyclate collections and reprocessing enterprises more viable, we have always used a collection method that meets their sustainable development outcomes with high quality source separation of materials and closed loop recycling.

Whilst we continually review our collection methods to increase our recycling capture and encourage our residents to recycle more, the Welsh Assembly Government has amassed considerable evidence that supports kerbside–sort over co–mingled single container collections.

In addition to the fact that co–mingled recycling collections are not supported by the Welsh Assembly Government, it would not be prudent to move to such a system prematurely and ultimately find the arrangements to be less sustainable.

I can, however, advise residents that we will work with continued vigour to consider any service changes that are acceptable to our Government and will result in higher recycling rates in the Vale of Glamorgan.

I agree with your reader that loose recyclate from boxes can escape and end up as litter on our streets. To address this we have recently introduced an elasticated netting cover for recycling boxes.

These are available from the Civic and the Alps Offices for £1 each and when tied to the box should eliminate the vast majority, if not all, wind–blown litter from recycling boxes.

In addition, we have been trialling 'blue bags' similar to the green garden waste bags for use with cardboard and plastic recycling. It is possible that these blue bags will also be available at £1 each.

Clifford Parish
Operational Manager
Waste Management and Cleansing

Vale to celebrate Armed Forces Day

RAF personnel from St Athan will parade through Barry on June 21.

ARMED Forces Day will be marked in the Vale with flags and a military march-past through Barry on June 21.

Vale Deputy Mayor, Coun John Clifford, and representatives of the council will be joined by members of the RAF at St Athan, the Royal British Legion and representatives of the Merchant Navy Association.

Leader of the Vale Council, Coun Gordon Kemp, said: "We are proud to fly the flag for our armed forces and to honour our past and present servicemen and women who work tirelessly and bravely on our behalf.

"This is also an opportunity to remember those who now have to live with injuries sustained in active service and those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country; every one of us is forever in their debt.

"We are looking forward to seeing the RAF at St Athan exercising their right to parade in the county, joined by the British Legion and the Merchant Navy Association.

"We hope as many people as possible will show their support for our armed forces and join us in Barry for the event."

As holders of the Freedom of the borough, RAF at MoD St Athan will exercise their right to march through the town.

They will line up in Central Park at 10am, while standard bearers from the Royal British Legion and the Merchant Navy Association will gather on King Square.

The personnel will then march along Holton Road to the Civic Offices forecourt, where the flag raising ceremony will take place and the RAF St Athan Voluntary Band will play.

The parade will line up at the civic offices at 10.10am, with the Armed Forces flag raised at

YOUNG STAGECOACH ACTORS STEP OUT ON THE WEST END STAGE

LEFT: It will be a big night for the Stagecoach group when they perform songs from Chicago, Cabaret (and other Kander and Ebb shows) on the West End stage.

STAGECOACH Theatre Arts students from Bridgend and the Vale are gearing up for a special performance in the heart of London's West End.

On Sunday, June 27, they will perform at Her Majesty's Theatre, currently home of the smash hit musical *The Phantom of the Opera*.

The Stagecoach Performance Troupe consists of 17 students aged 10 to 17 years, who were selected to perform in a special night celebrating musical theatre.

Principal Helene Reynolds said: "They are thrilled by the opportunity to perform on the West End stage! It promises to be an exceptional night featuring an eclectic mix of musical styles, popular shows, famous songs and original work.

"Our students will delight the audience with a performance that celebrates show-stopping Kander and Ebb, the legendary Broadway duo who revolutionised musical theatre."

Fire authority Chair re-elected

SOUTH WALES Fire and Rescue Authority has announced that Vale councillor Anthony Ernest, of Penarth, has been re-elected chairman of South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for the forthcoming year.

He was re-elected to the position at South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority's AGM on June 7. Coun Keith Hyde, Cardiff, was re-elected vice chairman.

Also re-elected were Coun R. Greenland (Monmouth) as chairman of South Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Finance, audit & performance management committee and Coun C. Mann (Caerphilly) as vice chairman. Coun R. McKerlich (Cardiff) was elected for the first time as chairman of the human resources and equalities committee.

Gibbonsdown and Court's annual fun day presents 'change 4 life' day in June

Gibbonsdown and Court Communities First 'Change 4 Life' Day was a great success on Friday, June 4, with hundreds of people attending the annual event.

Communities First worked with local agencies, including Flying Start, Safer Vale Partnership, Vibe and the Council's Play Development Team among many.

There was a health and wellbeing theme throughout the day – as well as free children's activities, including bouncy castles, climbing wall, soft play and circus workshops.

The information tent hosted organisations including Diabetes Wales, Stop Smoking Wales, Bi Polar Cymru, Prostate Screening Trust, Communities First Allotment Group and Breast Cancer Wales.

Judges Yvonne Knowles, Bro Radio's AJ and Steve Powell and road show host Mathew Wilson.

Sharon Topazio, Communities First Co-ordinator said: "The 'Change 4 Life' theme played a major part at this year's annual fun day, with lots of information given to residents about healthy lifestyles".

'Bro Radio broadcast live throughout the day and the finale of the afternoon was the Communities First 'Gibby & Court's Got Talent' competition which went down a storm with everyone!

St Athan football club presentation evening

THE St Athan Football Club will be holding a presentation evening on Friday, June 25, at the St Athan community centre.

Tickets for admission are available from Chris Davies on 07727 080737.

There will be live music from Tall Order, a disco, and raffle prizes.

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LLANTWIT MAJOR BOWLS CLUB NEWS

Record win for 'A' team bowlers over Birchgrove

LEFT: President Gill Phillips and other members of the St Athan Women's Institute, having tea in the clubhouse.

LLANTWIT Major Bowls Club 'A' team were hosts to Birchgrove on Saturday and, with the visitors fielding a weakened team, they notched a record score in winning on all four rinks.

Eric Sparks' rink lost the first two ends but then got in and moved steadily ahead, scoring seven shots on one end – score 40 – 9.

Arthur Harvey's rink only allowed their opponents four ends in their comprehensive win – score 39 – 7..

Mike Adams' rink had an excellent afternoon, forging ahead all the time and including a six and a five – score 37 – 9.

Phil Clarke had more of a battle on his hands, going 7-0 down before they got on the scorecard. However, they stayed in contention and a six on the 14th end gave them a lead which they did not lose – score 23 – 20.

It is worth noting that the team included three young players, R George, N Parry and M Pitman, who all acquitted themselves well and have the ability to make their mark in the side.

Anniversary sampler

AS part of their celebrations of their 50th anniversary, the bowls club has invited several local organisations to come along and sample the game of bowls.

On Wednesday, nine ladies from Llanmaes Women's Institute had their taster on a glorious afternoon which provided the ideal conditions for playing.

While some of the ladies may not regard bowls as a must for the future, a few have definite thoughts of giving the game another try – perhaps the cream tea which followed helped to influence their opinion.

The conditions were very different for St Athan Women's Institute, who came on Thursday evening.

It was chilly with a blustery wind and did nothing to persuade the ladies to remain on the green for an extended stay!

However, another cream tea probably went some way towards recompensing them. A good time was had by all.

Bob Whitehead Trophy

THE first club competition to be decided this season took place on Sunday.

The Bob Whitehead Trophy, which has not been contested for several years, has been restored by competitions secretary, Alan Gibbard, for this, the 50th anniversary year.

The trophy is for mixed triples and was played in world cup format of two groups of six rinks playing each other, with the two group winners going on to the final.

The weather nearly brought about an early finish, but cleared sufficiently for Val Baelz, Mike Adams and Steve Booker to defeat Jean Voss, Roger Williams and Eric Sparks.

The trophy and replicas were presented to the winners and runners-up by presidents Arthur Harvey and Edna Hardy.

ES

Cowbridge's tennis teams set the bar high!

IN a week that started well, with the ladies first team battling for a fine win over a strengthened David Lloyd team by 4-2, the second team went down to a high-flying Whitchurch team by the same margin.

For the ladies first team, Alison Kurobassa and Jane James put in their usual polished and effective performance, suitably supported by the consistency of Jenny Lord and Gillian Rideout, and Jane Richards and Janet Booth.

Playing for the seconds were Sue Wilkin and Louise Hailstone, who had a rare experience of a losing one of their matches and winning the other.

Jayne Wilby, Julie Couzens, Pat Thomas and Sarah Wallace completed the line up.

Team captain Jayne Wilby was undaunted by the set back saying: "We have a great spirit in the side and are determined to bounce back with a win in our next match."

Cowbridge men's team rounded off the week as the ladies began it, with a convincing win over Firbank Dale 6–0 and 12 sets to 0.

Allan Duggan, Colin Rees, Ian Duggan, Warren Davies, Simon Lake and skipper Paul Arnold all performed well for the team.

NEWS FROM COWBRIDGE SQUASH CLUB

Competition is keen in finals

THE squash season has ended for Cowbridge this year, and all that is left are the club championship finals and presentation night.

The two men's finals will be held in the squash club on Saturday June 19.

The singles, between Jon Bisson and Nick Guard, will be at 5.30pm, followed by the doubles, featuring Nick Guard and Julian Jenkins against Richard Ford and Simon Payne.

This will be followed by the presentation of junior and senior medals in the rugby club at 7:30 pm.

All members current and past are welcome to attend the function, which will continue in the rugby club until 10pm

For more information, contact Clive Prigg on 01446 773729.

Blacksmiths Arms on top at Four Bells

THE Summer Darts League is well under way and week three saw the Four Bells at St Athan take on the Blacksmiths from Llanmaes.

The new format, six singles and three doubles, works well and the Four Bells were confident of a home victory.

The matches began well with Carl Smith (followed by Justin Harford) winning in some style to make it 2–0 to the Bells.

However, the remaining four singles matches all went down to doubles with all players scoring well but unable to finish.

Ken, Rick Overy, Mark Powell and Roy Fenton all had at least six darts to win it, but finally the Blacksmiths showed a bit more class, taking a 4–2 lead.

The three doubles games were equally close. Carl Smith and Spike Davies narrowly lost out, before Justin Harford and Richard Thomas reduced the deficit to 5–3.

Paul Jackson and Elfyn Roberts played the final game and were unlucky, once again scoring well but the finishing let them down.

A good evening's entertainment was rounded off by Ken Kase winning the scratch card raffle.

There were some impressive darts, with Justin and Carl both scoring 180s in the warm-up, to follow Roy Fenton's 180 in his match last week.

It bodes well for a successful summer season.

Once again thanks must go to Roy and Cyndy for their impressive after match spread, and to the Blacksmiths team for playing the game with a bit of banter.

MP

Llandow Kart Club hosts 'most ambitious event'

ROUND four of Llandow Kart Club's 2010 season was perhaps the most ambitious event yet undertaken, as the usual summer series combined with the Welsh Championships, the Dragon Challenge round and a visit from Southern Blue Challenge, required 61 races over two days.

ABOVE: A recent race at Llandow (photographed by Glyn Evans).

In all, 14 classes were in action, with 11 chasing the increasingly prestigious 'C' Plate, and the status of the occasion was underlined by no fewer than 70 visiting drivers being included on the entry, including a number of Super 1 and Formula Kart stars regulars.

A mammoth 30-strong Cadet field was sensibly split for the finals, with defending Welsh champion Tom Harvey the man to beat in the Comer class after winning a heat and the pre-final.

However, with Jordan Gilbertson and Connor Jupp both showing their potential in the earlier races, and local boys Harry Williams and Harrison Thomas also on form, a five-way scrap for the title ensued.

Harvey and Williams both led in the early laps, before a move from Jupp in to Raymonds saw both drivers run wide and allow Williams back into the lead. Given his break, the youngster was not about to blow the biggest win of his short career, and held on to claim the crown, with Jupp second and Thomas third.

Despite being visibly disappointed at the result, however, fourth-placed Harvey showed sportsmanship isn't dead by handing over his 'C' Plate to the new champion in parc ferme.

The Honda class was all about Robbie Gallier, who returned to the Welsh Championship determined to atone for the mechanical failure that robbed him of the 2009 title.

Gallier calmly pulled away at the front, eventually taking a five-second victory to add the Welsh title to the Celtic crown he claimed in December. Behind him, White eventually got the better of Petricca, with Fletcher Trueman taking fourth.

Junior TKM was one of the biggest benefactors of the increased entry, and it was Llandow debutants Alex Forward and Ross Darlington who set the pace.

Forward took pole and a new lap record en route to heat one victory over Darlington and Zach Jones, and then proceeded to rewrite the record again in second qualifying.

From there, however, it was Darlington to the fore, claiming each of the remaining three races and, with them, the title of Welsh Junior TKM 2-Stroke champion.

With Jones and cousin Zach moving to the 2-Stroke class, Andrew Davies had only novice Ryan Jones as opposition in the 4-Stroke equivalent and had things his own way for most of the weekend. Although Jones was gifted the pre-final when Davies' engine shut down on the rolling lap, the more experienced driver bounced back to claim the final and the Welsh title.

Although the Junior Honda entry boasted only five entries, the racing underlined the typically close nature of Prokart competition.

Each driver laid claim to at least a podium place, with Daniel Jones and Lloyd Sealy taking the heat wins, before the latter began to stamp his authority on proceedings with victory in the pre-final.

Sealy could have expected Jones to provide his usual close opposition in the main event, but was gifted an easy run to the flag when Jones struggled with an intermittent engine problem that eventually saw him retire, just as his fightback was beginning.

The Jones family then learned a salutary lesson in dealing with tough times as brother Chris was also sidelined with engine gremlins, leaving defending champion Jamie Warren and novice Alex Thomas to complete the podium.

Having taken both the Minimax and Junior Max crowns in 2009, Sam Marsh returned in search of a 'double double' in 2010, but found the competition as stiff as ever.

Although he remained unbeaten all weekend in Minimax, and pulled away comfortably in the final to leave Macaulay Austin and Leon Hilleard scrapping over the minor podium places, Marsh found life in Junior Max altogether tougher, with a 25-strong entry one of the biggest of the weekend.

Fraser O'Brien appeared the class of the field as he claimed victory in all four races, but the ever impressive Joshua Collings made sure that O'Brien didn't have life easy by pressuring him throughout.

While O'Brien eventually took the Welsh title by a mere second, Marsh's bid for a little bit of history ended with third place, meritorious in its own right after he dropped to eighth at the start.

Dominic Gorrett was awarded the weekend prize for best presented kart.

Llandow welcomed back a Senior TKM grid for the first time in five years, with a 10-strong entry led by 2009 Super 1 runner-up Randall Lynn and old rival Joe Forsdyke.

The pair shared heat wins before Lynn secured pole for the final with a close pre-final win, but an opening lap move from Forsdyke gave him a lead he was not to lose. Two seconds separated the rivals at the end, with Kevin Westbrook taking third and Sam Grogan, from the back of the grid, fourth.

Simon Evans dominated a Senior Honda class graced by just four karts, with club veteran Paul Saunders coming through to take second from youngsters Ferdinand Ball and Gareth Lewis.

While Evans finally converted a string of podium finishes in Welsh finals into victory, Dan Jones did likewise in Formula Rotax, winning all four races despite a closely-matched 20-driver entry to claim his first Welsh crown after 10 years and three runners-up results.

Although Nathan Lawley and Nigel Davies fell by the wayside health-wise, the action was a fierce as ever in this season's best-supported class at Llandow, with some unexpected names featuring on the final podium.

Having dominated the front of the field through the build-up to the main event, Jones took advantage of the scrapping behind him to open out a four-second cushion, while the visiting Stephen Andrews got the better of the LKC regulars to take second. Liam Revell completed the top three after bouncing back from exclusion in first qualifying.

Richie Raymond also finally achieved the goal of lifting a Welsh Championship title by becoming the first such winner of the Max 177 class and emulating father Jonathan, who won on several occasions in the 1980s.

After winning both heats and the pre-final, Raymond saw off Wayne Stone in the main event, with the runner-up taking advantage of a wild moment for Nigel Hughes to claim second spot. Hughes recovered to complete the podium as the 177 class showed an increase in numbers.

Although not competing for Welsh titles, both Junior and Formula Blue added to the rich variety of the weekend, with Ryan Edgecumbe and Craig Copeland running out victors.

The weekend ended with the latest outing of the Bambino class as Alex Austin and Morgan Chell, respectively the younger brothers of former Welsh champions Macaulay and Ross – went head-to-head to the delight of the large crowd.

RESULTS

CADET COMER – Harry Williams (Zip); Connor Jupp (Zip); Harrison Thomas (Zip).
CADET HONDA – Robbie Gallier (Project One); Ari White (Project One); Kyle Petricca (Project One).
JUNIOR HONDA – Lloyd Sealy (MS); Jamie Warren (Wright); Alex Thomas (Jade).
JUNIOR TKM 2 STROKE – Ross Darlington (Tonykart); Liam Jones (Jade); Alex Forward (Storm).
JUNIOR TKM 4 STROKE – Andrew Davies (Jade); Ryan Jones (CRG).
MINIMAX – Sam Marsh (Kosmic); Macaulay Austin (Maranello); Leon Hilleard (Energy).
JUNIOR MAX – Fraser O'Brien (Kosmic); Joshua Collings (CRG); Sam Marsh (Kosmic).
SENIOR TKM – Joe Forsdyke (Tal-Ko); Randall Lynn (Alonso); Kevin Westbrook (Alonso).
SENIOR HONDA – Simon Evans (7Kart); Paul Saunders (7Kart); Ferdinand Ball (MS).
FORMULA ROTAX – Dan Jones (Tonykart); Stephen Andrews (CRG); Liam Revell (Tonykart).
MAX 177 – Richard Raymond (Tonykart); Wayne Stone (Tonykart); Nigel Hughes (CRG).
JUNIOR BLUE – Ryan Edgecumbe; Ashley Goodliffe (Zip); Ben Pearson (Kosmos).
FORMULA BLUE – Craig Copeland (Mac Minarelli); Robin Brotherwood (Tecno); Jamie Rush (Tecno).
BAMBINO – Alex Austin and Morgan Chell.

Best presented kart: Dominic Gorrett (Junior Max).
Best performance by Honda driver: Hugo Holmes (Cadet Honda).
Best novice: Ryan Jones (Junior TKM 4-Stroke).
Kath Denscombe Memorial Award – Driver of the Day: Alex Thomas.

Report: CRAIG LLEWELLYN/ HENRY BEAUDETTE

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Home is where the wins are for ladies

THIS week, Llantwit Major ladies had two home matches, as we welcomed Porthcawl Prince of Wales BC on Tuesday for the Cowbridge Challenge Shield.

In a fairly even match, we won on two rinks and lost on one to gain eight points from 10, with an overall score of 53–39.

The rinks were Kay Johnes, Margaret Horgan, Peggy Pike and Pat Cook (18–15). Edna Hardie, Barbara Lewis, Jean Voss and Carol Willmot; (20–7); Liz Crouch, Ann Mutlow, May Davies and Eryl Nicholls (15–17).

On Thursday, we welcomed Barry Central BC for a league match which we won on all rinks, taking the full 10 points.

This was due mainly to Marian Lewis, who on the last end changed a one shot down to a five shot up, giving her rink a win.

The other two rinks won well, those were Edna Hardie, Ann Mutlow, Eryl Nichills and May Davies (17–11); Kay Johnes, Peggy Pike, Pat Cook and Marian Lewis (17–15); Liz Crouch, Carol Willmot, Jean Voss and Etta Gray (20–11). **KJ**

Castleland Tae Kwon Do club's success

CASTLELAND Tae Kwon Do Club, who regularly hold training sessions at Castleland Community Centre, have recently gained several new distinctions.

The club have gained several distinctions.

Michael Thorington (33), who has been training under the tutorage of Master Leon Shakespeare since the age of 13, has achieved his black belt.

He now teaches alongside Leon.

Michael has found that the tenets of Tae Kwon Do (discipline, respect for others, myself and the sport, perseverance and modesty) have, over the years, given him guidance and direction when facing life's challenges.

He said: "Gaining my black belt was one of the best feelings of my life. The first was the birth of my son in 2005, and I hope he follows in my footsteps.

"I have the greatest respect for Leon and his dedication to the sport."

Several of the club's youngsters (aged 9–13) passed their gradings, and have been awarded coloured belts.

They were: Rhonnda Gulley, Tyler Hawkins Shier, Joshua Barnett, Corie Mitchel, and Arwel Thomas.

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04 **54 MG TF 1.8 135 Convertible.** In ignition blue with anthracite Sebring interior, alloy wheels, cd player, alarm and immobiliser only 27,100 miles **£4,995**

04 **54 HYUNDAI Coupe 2.0 SE 3-dr Coupe.** In smart silver with black leather interior, air con, alloy wheels, cruise control, front fog lights, only 71,900 miles **£4,995**

04 **04 CITROEN C2 1.6 VTR Sensodrive** in arctic steel silver with neutron mesh interior, paddle shift, alloy wheels, air con, colour coded bumpers, rear spoiler, cd, only 62,100 miles **£4,295**

03 **03 MAZDA MX5 1.8i** option pack in strada blue with black sports interior, c/d, alloy wheels, e/c windows, heated rear screen, only 83,750 miles **£5,495**

03 **53 MG TF 1.8 135bhp 2-door Convertible.** In starlight silver with black interior, alloy wheels, body coloured bumpers, CD, electric windows, only 30,845 miles **£4,495**

02 **02 MG ZS 2.5 180.** In anthracite black, with monaco ash interior with red inserts, alloy wheels, a/c, cd, colour coded bumpers, front fogs, alarm and immobiliser, only 62,310 miles **£2,995**

01 **Y Mitsubishi Shogun 3.2 DI-D GLX LE LWB.** In metallic silver with blue velour interior, cd, alloys, air con, electric windows/mirrors, alarm and immobiliser, only 88,471 miles **£6,495**

FAMILY

08 **08 VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Breeze 5-dr** in star silver met with tabita charcoal interior, alloy wheels, climate control, trip computer, body coloured bumpers, only 10,800 miles **£9,495**

07 **57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr 4WD.** In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles **£15,995**

07 **57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback** in Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, £35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles **£6,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio 1.4 16v 98 Dynamique 5-dr Hatchback.** In mercury silver with carbon sport interior, air con, CD, front fogs, alarm, only 15,060 miles **£7,295**

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles **£7,995**

05 **55 RENAULT Megane 1.6 16v Dynamique** in met platinum silver with ruche cloth interior, auto lights, auto wipers, air con, cd, clour coded bumpers, only 16,380 miles **£5,795**

05 **05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi 130 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with ebony interior, colour coded bumpers, multi CD, climate control, service history, only 39,010 miles **£6,495**

05 **05 HONDA Civic 1.7 CDTi** in magnetic blue with hatch fabric interior, alloy wheels, air con, cd, colour coded bumpers, only 55,130 miles **£6,495**

05 **05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi (130bhp) LX 6-speed** in stardust silver with majestic interior, quick clear front screen, digital a/c, cruise control, trip computer, only 55,341 miles **£5,995**

04 **54 FORD Mondeo 2.0 Ghia 5-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with aras ebony interior, front and rear fogs, cruise control, multi cd, quick clear windscreen, only 51,140 miles **£4,995**

04 **54 CITROEN C3 stop&start 1.4 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In silver with blue velour interior, air con, cd, alloy wheels, only 29,920 miles **£4,495**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6 16v Ghia 5-Dr Hatchback.** In tonic blue with midnight black interior, air con, quick clear screen, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, body coloured bumpers, only 58,020 miles **£4,495**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles **£4,395**

03 **03 HONDA Civic Type S 5-dr** in clover green met with half leather sports seats, climate control, alloy wheels, rear spoiler, full Honda service history, only 36,030 miles **£5,695**

02 **51 TOYOTA Corolla 1.6 VVTi GLS Automatic 5-dr** in Atlantis blue metallic with hocney interior, alloy wheels, air con, sunroof, cd auto-changer, body coloured bumpers, only 34,790 miles **£3,495**

SMALL

09 **09 VAUXHALL 1.4 16v Design (a/c) 5-dr Automatic Hatchback.** In black with black interior, cd, alloy wheels, electric mirrors and windows, auto dipping rear view mirror, only 8,020 miles **£10,995**

09 **09 VAUXHALL Corsa Club A/C 1.2 16v 5-Dr.** In black sapphire, with cable charcoal interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, CD, alarm and immobiliser, auxiliary output, only 18,218 miles **£8,495**

09 **09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4** in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles **£6,995**

08 **58 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Design (A/C).** 5 door in ice blue with dark interior, air con, MP3 input, colour coded bumpers, front fog lights, only 19,950 miles **£8,495**

08 **08 FORD KA Studio.** In panther black with cascade interior, immobiliser, CD, drivers airbag, central locking, only 32,349 miles **£4,995**

08 **57 FORD KA Style Climate.** In tango red with cascade interior, colour coded bumpers, air con, CD, Quickclear front screen, only 32,136 miles **£5,295**

07 **57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr Hatchback.** In arctic steel silver with garland interior, air con, colour coded bumpers, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 38,556 miles **£6,995**

07 **07 RENAULT Clio Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In silver with black interior, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, fog lights, only 37,550 miles **£5,995**

06 **06 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Extreme 3-dr Hatchback.** In platinum silver with grey interior, alloy wheels, steering wheel mounted audio controls, colour coded bumpers, CD, only 19,860 miles **£5,995**

06 **55 FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style Climate 3-dr.** In tonic blue with Kyoto ebony interior, air con, quickclear front screen, cd, trip computer, colour coded bumpers, only 41,820 miles **£5,295**

06 **06 FORD Ka 1.3 Collection.** In panther black with Tic-Toc interior, cd, body coloured bumpers, immobiliser, only 30,866 miles **£4,195**

05 **05 PEUGEOT 206 1.1 8v S (A/C) 5-Dr Hatchback.** In aluminium silver with grey/black interior, air con, CD, front electric windows, immobiliser, only 38,100 miles **£4,495**

05 **05 HYUNDAI Getz 1.1 GSi 5-dr.** In clean silver with grey cloth interior, cd, 5 belted seats, driver and passenger airbags, immobiliser, colour coded bumpes, only 26,280 miles **£3,995**

04 **04 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet 2-dr.** In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, air con, cdm alloy wheels, alarm, only 43,895 miles **£6,495**

04 **04 VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 16v Life 5-dr Hatchback.** In star silver metallic with orleans interior, electric windows, cd, remote central locking, alarm and immobiliser, only 51,380 miles **£3,495**

03 **53 MINI Cooper 1.6 Pepper.** In pure silver met with Kaleido half leather interior, panormaic sunroof, alloy wheels, cd, body coloured bumpers, only 49,540 miles **£6,995**

03 **03 MINI Cooper Chilli 1.6 3-Dr Hatchback.** In pure silver with anthracite/black panther cloth/leather interior, interior light package, chrome line exterior, air con, CD, only 36,975 miles **£6,995**

03 **03 RENAULT Clio 1.2 16v Expression 5-Dr Hatchback.** In capsicum red with grey interior, CD, sunroof, power steering, service history, only 57,970 miles **£3,295**

01 **51 PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Coupe Cabriolet SE 2-dr.** In platinum silver with full black astrakan leather interior, digital climate control, cd, 16 inch alloy wheels, front fogs, only 46,010 miles **£3,995**

01 **Y VOLKSWAGEN Polo 1.4S 3-dr.** In reflex silver met with Pepe interior, sunroof, body coloured bumpers, cd, immobiliser, full VW service history, only 68,350 miles **£3,495**

07 **57 NISSAN QashQai 2.0dCi Tenka 5-dr 4WD.** In pearl black metallic, with full graphite leather interior, alloy wheels, climate control, cruise control, cd with bluetooth, heated seats, rear parking sensors, panoramic sunroof, only 37,267 miles..... **£15,995**

07 **07 BMW X3 2.5si SE Automatic** in platinum bronze metallic with sand beige leather interior, aluminum running boards, cd, front and rear parking sensors, heated seats, only 33,160 miles..... **£18,995**

05 **05 FORD Mondeo 2.0 TDCi (130bhp) LX 6-speed** in stardust silver with majestic interior, quick clear front screen, digital a/c, cruise control, trip computer, only 55,341 miles..... **£5,995**

04 **04 FORD Focus 1.6i 16v Zetec 5-dr Hatchback.** In panther black with Saloman black interior, climate pack which includes air con and quick clear heated front screen, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, only 83,060 miles..... **£4,395**

09 **09 CHEVROLET Aveo LT 1.4** in pearl black with bricket cloth, aircon, alloy wheels, colour coded bumpers, alarm and immobiliser, cd, only 16,900 miles..... **£6,995**

07 **57 CITROEN C3 1.4 HDi Cool 5-dr hatchback** in Arctic silver with Galand black interior, air con, cd, immobiliser, £35 a year road tax, one owner, only 37,845 miles..... **£6,995**

04 **04 TOYOTA Avensis 2.0 VVTi T-Spirit Auto 4-dr Saloon.** Silver fern, st moritz charcoal leather, map gps nav system, climate, cruise, electric seat adjustment, only 55,065 miles..... **£6,495**

06 **56 TOYOTA Corolla T2 Colour Collection, 1.4 5-dr Hatchback.** In eclipse black with silver fleck interior, a/c, alloys, colour coded side skirts, audio controls on steering wheel, one owner, only 32,415 miles..... **£7,995**

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195/65R15 Bridgestone ER300	£63.94	£110	£210	195/65R15 Avon ZV5	£54.94	£101	£195	195/65R15 Maxxis	£46.84	£85	£160
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205/55R16 Bridgestone ER300	£77.32	£145	£275	205/55R16 Avon ZV5	£68.22	£125	£240	205/55R16 Hero	£51.39	£95	£180
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07 07	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.2 3-dr.** Silver, 14k	£6,475
07 07	**CITROEN C3 1.4i 5-dr Desire.** Black, 11k	£5,975
06 06	**PEUGEOT 207 1.4 3-Dr.** Met. Silver, 32k	£5,975
04 54	**TOYOTA Yaris 1.3VVT** Met blue, 17k	£5,975
07 07	**FORD Fiesta 1.25 Style.** Silver, 24k	£5,750
06 06	**CITROEN C1 Rhythm.** Black, 25k	£5,475
06 06	**VAUXHALL Agila 1.2i 16v Enjoy 5-Dr.** Met Purple, 13k	£5,475
05 55	**VAUXHALL Corsa 1.0 3-dr.** Silver, 30k	£4,975
05 55	**KIA Picanto 1.1LX 5-Dr.** Ice Blue, 44k	£4,975
05 05	**FORD Fiesta 1.25 LX 5-dr.** Silver, 38k	£4,475
03 53	**HYUNDAI Getz 1.3 3-dr.** Red, 65k	£2,475
05 05	**CHEVROLET Matiz 1.0 5-dr SE** Silver, 50k	£2,950
04 54	**KIA Rio LE 5-dr H/B.** Silver, 45k	£2,975

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06 56	**VAUXHALL Astra 1.6 Life 5-Dr Auto.** Met Grey, 33k	£5,975
06 06	**FORD Focus Zetec Climate TDCi 5-dr.** Met blue,	£6,975
05 05	**SAAB 4-dr 2.2 TDi Auto.** Met gold, 60k	£5,975
04 04	**PEUGEOT 407 Turbo CDi.** Met blue, 60k	£4,975
04 04	**RENAULT Megane 1.9 TDi 3-dr.** Blue, 60k	£4,975
05 05	**FORD Focus 1.6 16v 5-Dr Edge.** Met Silver, 42k	£4,975
05 05	**FORD Focus Zetec 1.8 TDi 3-dr.** Blue, 70k	£4,650
04 54	**FORD Focus Ghia Saloon 1.6 4-dr.** Silver, 55k	£3,975
01 Y	**VOLKSWAGEN Beetle 2.0.** Yellow, 80k	£3,975
03 53	**HONDA Civic 1.6i V-Tec S** Met Blue, 55k	£3,950
03 03	**NISSAN Almera 1.5S 5-Dr.** Met Blue, 54k	£2,975

Estates & MPVs

04 04	**MERCEDES 270 CDi Auto Estate.** Met. Beige, 70k	£10,975
04 04	**AUDI A6 TDi SE Auto Estate.** Met. Silver, 70k	£8,975
06 56	**CITROEN Picasso 1.6 HDi EXEC MPV** Red, 30k	£6,475
02 52	**RENAULT Scenic 1.9 TDi.** One owner, 70k, black	£3,495

Sports & Executives

04 04	**MERCEDES 500 SL Cabriolet.** Silver, 80k	£17,975
05 05	**BMW 330Ci Sports Coupe.** Leather, 30k	£10,975
02 02	**NISSAN 350 Z Auto Super Sports Coupe** Met. Grey, 44k	£8,975
04 04	**CITROEN C4 1.6 VTR Sports Coupe.** Met. Green, 50k	£5,975
04 04	**PEUGEOT 206cc Cabriolet.** Black, 50k	£5,975
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07 07 RENAULT Modus Dynamique 1.4 5-dr Gold met, **only 20,000 miles!**
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09 59 VAUXHALL Zafira 1.6 5-dr. Ultra blue, **only 3,500 miles!**
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07 07 HONDA Jazz Sport 1.4 5-dr Chiffon Green, **only 31,000 miles!**
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07 07 RENAULT Clio Privilage 1.6. Eclipse, **only 18,000 miles!**
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07 07 FORD Fusion Zetec Climate 1.4 5-dr. Tonic, **only 14,500 miles!**
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09 09 FORD Fiesta Zetec 1.4 5-dr. Tango red, **only 2,500 miles!**
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07 07 VAUXHALL Corsa Sxi 1.2 3-dr. Black, **only 21,000 miles!**
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07 07 CHEVROLET Tacuma Sx 1.6 mpv. Blue, **only 42,000 miles!**
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07 07 CITROEN Xsara Picasso VTX 1.6 mpv. Silver, **only 14,000 miles!**
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07 07 TOYOTA Verso TS 1.8 mpv. Silver, **only 23,000 miles!**
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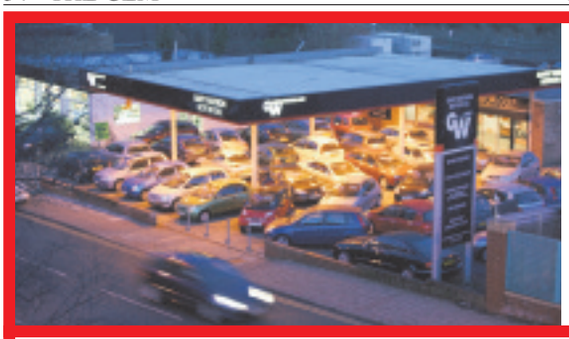

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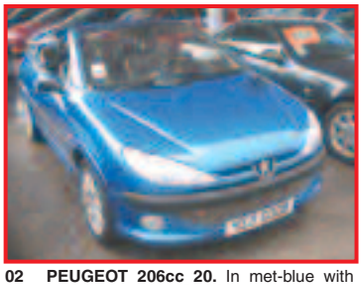

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GEM sport

COWBRIDGE CRICKET CLUB ROUND-UP

ABERDARE CC PUT THE BRAKES ON COWBRIDGE FIRST XI RUN MACHINE

IN an entertaining, close and hard-fought battle at the Athletic Ground, Cowbridge First XI had to admit that Aberdare Firsts were more successful on the day.

The reason for this was simple: the home batsmen were not able to set a competitive enough score in the 50 overs, falling about 50 runs short of what was required on the day to set a really realistic target.

Tom Merilaht won the toss and decided to bat, so he and Mike Lloyd opened the innings and found scoring extremely difficult against the pace and guile of the Aberdare opening bowlers.

In stark contrast to last week's deluge of runs, they crawled to 35 in the first 10 overs, when Mike was caught in the covers for 14, while trying to force the pace.

Tom was joined by Rob Carney and together, sensibly and carefully, they took the score to 116 in the 33rd over, when Rob was bowled for a well-crafted 44.

However, at that point, when the batsmen should be attempting to push the score along as quickly as possible, the remaining batsmen failed to grasp the initiative.

Tom tried his best with some cultured and powerful strokes, but no one was able to form a partnership with him. He eventually fell for 74, anchoring the side with a true captain's innings.

Of the others, only Ryan Taylor reached double figures, finishing on 24no with some lusty blows at the end. The final score was 196 for 9 with Jon Smart, 9no, accompanying Ryan.

After such a sound basis laid by the top three batsmen, those following on should really have scored in the region of 250 runs to have done themselves justice and set a competitive total. Three ducks, and just one batsman in double figures cannot be regarded as competitive.

Of the Aberdare bowlers, Mark Walton (3-23) and Mike Roberts (4-51) were outstanding, and when they batted they eventually reached the target without too much difficulty, although they were put under some pressure along the way.

The first Aberdare batsman fell in the second over to Matthew Smart, and although they lost five more wickets in reaching the target, wickets only fell after good partnerships had been formed. Apart from the initial early success, all the batsmen reached double figures easily, which allowed them to score the required runs in the 48th over.

Ryan Taylor added to his competent innings by claiming three wickets in the 15 overs he bowled. The other wickets were shared among Merilaht, Smart and Davies.

A number of dropped catches proved crucial, and afterwards, the captain suggested that the batters just threw it away after a great start. The fielding was an improvement, but his side came up short.

The last two games epitomise the First XI's season so far, a roller coaster ride of peaks and troughs: one can only hope that they peak far more often. **DL**

Second team bowlers tie down opposition

ON another sunny Saturday afternoon, Cowbridge travelled to the Cynon Valley to play Aberdare, keen to secure a victory to keep their early season momentum going.

Captain Jonty Webb won the toss and decided, despite the warm conditions, to bowl first. With an injury to John Gilbert and in the absence of Chris Cox, Rhydian Harris and Jamie Pursey led the Cowbridge attack.

Both set about the task admirably, bowling superbly, with Rhydian bowling with great variety and Jamie with immaculate line and length. This resulted in the Aberdare batsmen crawling to only 35 runs off the first 20 overs.

Furthermore, some lively fielding from all concerned increased the pressure on the batsmen. At this point, the Cowbridge spin twins of Harri Collier and James Thomas were introduced into the attack and immediately wickets began to tumble.

The principal wicket taker was James Thomas, who bowled excellently. The Aberdare batsmen had difficulty dealing with James's flight and guile, and he finished with excellent figures of 5 for 45 off 13 overs.

With Jamie Pursey popping up again to polish off the tail with two quick wickets, Aberdare finally finished on 167 off their 50 overs.

The Cowbridge reply did not get off to a great start with two early wickets in the first five overs. With the score at 29 for 2, Jonty Webb joined Harri Collier at the crease. Both set about building an excellent partnership of well over 50 runs.

Harri batted extremely well, finding the gaps and running well between the wickets with Jonty Webb at the other end mixing studious defence with good shot selection to put the bad deliveries away.

Harri was out for 40 and with the score at 103, the Cowbridge team knew that the total was within reach. With contributions from Alastair Brace and Chris Ross, making his debut for the club, the score gradually rose towards the target.

Jonty Webb was finally joined by Jamie Pursey who put bat to ball, which pushed Cowbridge over the total with seven overs to spare. Jamie finished on 29 and Jonty on 49, both not out.

This was a great result with excellent performances by bowlers, fielders and batsmen alike. The bowling and fielding was far superior to that of Aberdare, and it was especially heartening to see the batsmen dig in and apply themselves in reaching the required total. Congratulations to all the team! **JW**

Young thirds are under pressure

IT was fortunate that the West Wales XI match against Port Talbot was a home fixture as, with the presence of only one player of driving age, it would have meant a long walk for the team if the game had been away.

The general lack of years and, in one instance an excess, had its inevitable consequence.

Cowbridge won the toss and the game started 30 minutes early, an almost unheard of event, and in the event a convenient circumstance.

An aggressive attack from Port Talbot bowlers, of twice the age and weight, soon saw Cowbridge struggling at 13 for 3, although Michael Hordley showed that attack was the best form of defence.

He was joined at the wicket by David Webb and, for a while, it looked as though some stability might ensue until Webb was caught for 10. Hordley went on to score 31 but the rest of the wickets fell for only three runs, giving a total of 73 with 19 extras off 22 overs.

Port Talbot, not surprisingly, elected to carry straight on and reached their target in only 18 overs, the rout yet again being mitigated by fine efforts in the field, particularly a difficult skied catch taken looking into the sun by George Gibson.

At this point, the early start allowed tea to be taken and those who remained joined the spectators watching the Firsts.

We can only remember the spider of Robert the Bruce and try, try, try again.

The ladies (and men) bowlers are on form

IN the first of two games last week, Cowbridge Ladies played Bridgend Municipal Ladies at home in a Cowbridge Shield match.

Cowbridge won by 54 shots to the visitors 40, and on two of the three rinks.

The rink of Glenys Davies, Janet Legg, May Jones and Helena Snelling provided the basis of the win with a victory by 24 shots to 11.

Judy Springett's rink lost narrowly 14-15 and Sue Flower's rink won 16-14.

Two days later, the ladies played a league match at Romilly Park against Romilly Ladies.

Although Cowbridge lost by 59 shots to 46, Ann Jarvis's rink with captain Diane Purnell at lead, Thelma Jones at two and Pauline McAllen at three and Ann as skip, deserve special mention with an excellent rink win of 22 – 10.

This was, however, offset by losses on Sue Flower's rink 10-25 and Pat Davey's rink 14-25.

Overall, though, this was a much improved display.

Men win

For the mid week Munro Cup game, the men's team won on all four rinks at home to Rhoose.

Score total: Cowbridge 119 - Rhoose 37.

On Saturday, the men faced Millwood from Barry. This was its first league game of the season.

The result was a good win for Cowbridge by 96 shots to the visitors 51 but Cowbridge lost out on maximum points losing on one of the four rinks.

The best performing rink was provided by David Jones's quartet on rink two, winning by 35 – 8.

Other rinks scores were as follows:

Rink one, Roger Barwick's team 23-16. Rink three, Norman Wilkinson's team 25-18. Rink four, Dennis Snelling's team 13-19.

Finally, Cardiff Phoenix visited last Sunday to play in a mixed friendly. The match was cut short to 14 ends because of rain with Cowbridge running out winners by 63 – 60.

Cowbridge won on three of the rinks but lost on the other two. Rink scores: Brian Ken's team 17-7, Dennis Snelling's team 8-17, Pat Davey's team 11-15, Norman Wilkinson's team 13-10 and Ann Jarvis's team scoring six on one of the closing ends to win 14-11 and secured an overall win. It has been a good week for Ann. **MB**

Pub golf society's great day

THE Blacksmith's Arms Golf Society recently held its second golf day at the well-manicured Peterstone Lakes Golf Club.

Landlord of the reinvigorated Llanmaes pub Mike Poole, says the society has proven to be a success.

Winner of the day was Southerndown member Steve Jenkins, with a stableford score of 39 points. Steve also picked up the prize for nearest the pin, while the longest drive award went to Mike Jones.

The next event will be at St Mary's golf club on July 16, competing in the 'Blacksmith's closed', an annual event since 1986 where the winner is presented with the famous 'old loo seat' trophy.

New members are always welcome, and anyone interested should call in to see Mike at the Blacksmith's Arms, Llanmaes.

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